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THE Fisherman

—THE LONG ISLAND, METROPOLITAN NEW YORK EDITION—

August 1st—7th, 1985
Volume 20, Number 30

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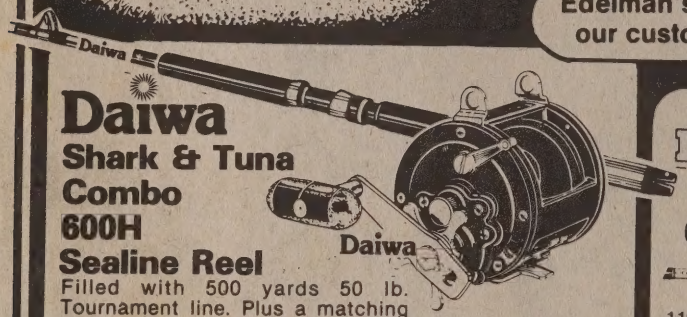

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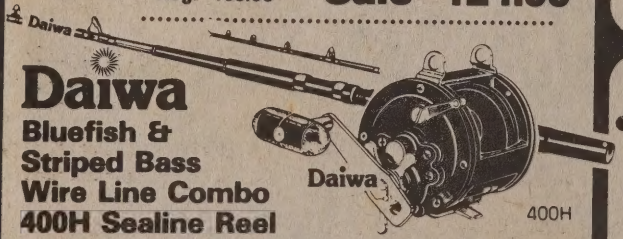

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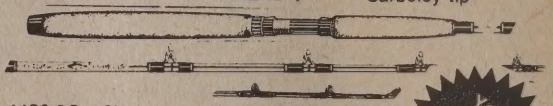

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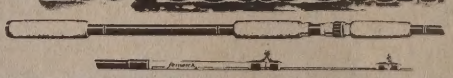

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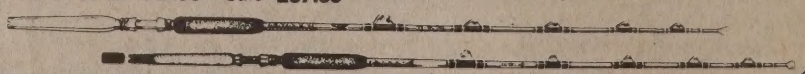

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THE Fisherman

—THE LONG ISLAND, METROPOLITAN NEW YORK EDITION—

Volume 20, Number 30 August 1st, 1985

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ABOUT THE COVER:

This fine bigeye was hooked after repeated passes over a piece of offshore structure. Those who seek tuna and billfish in distant offshore waters should find John Raguso's ongoing "Canyon Wreck Series" of particular interest. This week's installment begins on page 15. Cover photo by Pete Barrett.

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FREEPORT KIWANIS CLUB CHARITY TOURNEY

The Freeport Kiwanis Club is proud to announce its First Annual Charity Inshore Fishing Tournament to be held August 24th and 25th. Prizes will be awarded for the first through fifth largest bluefish and fluke caught. Winners will be invited to an awards dinner at the Midship Restaurant on August 28th. The entry fee of $25 is tax deductible. Entry applications and rules are available at Hook Line & Sinker, 102 Woodcleft Ave., Freeport, by mail: P.O. Box 632, Freeport, NY 11520; or by phone, Capt. Carl, (516) 223-0635.

FREEPORT SNAPPER FESTIVAL

For all anglers ages 7 to 12, the Freeport Snapper Festival will be held August 26th (rain date August 27th). Aside from the tugs from the baby blues, there will be free hats, rods, bait, refreshments and trophies for participants. For info, call Freeport Recreation, (516) 223-8000 and ask for John Jeffries.

HALPIN BOAT NOISE BILL PASSES ASSEMBLY

In an effort to quiet Long Island beaches this summer, the State Assembly has passed legislation for the second time in as many years to cut down noise pollution on the water by setting up noise limits for pleasure vessels.

"We have taken a step toward quieter, more serene shores by passing this measure," said Assemblyman Patrick G. Halpin (D-Lindenhurst), the bill' sponsor.

"By strengthening enforcement of noise level limits for pleasure boats, we protect the health and well being of all who vacation and summer on Long Island's beautiful beaches," Halpin continued.

Halpin's bill establishes specific decibel levels for pleasure boats on a three year phase-in plan—beginning with a level of 86 decibels (db) for all boats manufactured after September 1, 1988. After September 1, 1988 and before September 1, 1990, the permissible levels would be 84 db. After September 1, 1990 all new boats would be subject to a noise limitation of 82 db. Included in the bill are provisions for enforcement of the new law through the use of test courses and by raising the maximum penalty from $25 to $100 for violators.

"Over 90 percent of the vessels registered in our State are pleasure boats, so it is important that we limit the noise coming from these boat engines. By reducing their noise to between 86 and 82 decibels we make our beaches more like the tranquil refuge they should be and less like an airport runway," said Halpin.

Halpin added that 86 dbs is equivalent to the level of noise coming from a tractor trailer or a bus passing within 15 feet.

"Neighboring States, such as Connecticut and New Jersey are already regulating pleasure boat noise. When the State Senate returns to Albany it is hoped that they will join us in restoring peace to our water," concluded Halpin.

NEW YORK AND NEW JERSEY GOVERNORS JOIN TO CREATE SPECIAL AWARD FOR FISHING CHAMPIONS

Governor Mario Cuomo of New York and Governor Thomas Kean of New Jersey announced the creation of the "Governors' Award" for the outstanding angler from each state who participated in the 1985 Harbor Festival Fishing Rodeo. The trophies represent the first joint award by the governors for the sport of fishing.

Presenting the award on behalf of Governor Cuomo to the New York State winner was Orin Lehman, Commissioner, New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation. "Both Governor Cuomo and I are delighted to be a part of the Governors' Award for the outstanding angler of each state," states Commissioner Lehman.

"The governors' recognition of the sport of fishing is new this year, but I believe that it will become a much anticipated annual event. We are delighted to be able to bring the sport of fishing into the public eye and to recognize its important function in New York tourism, recreation and maritime trade."

According to Victoria Schmidt, Director of the New Jersey Division of Travel and Tourism, "This is a wonderful opportunity for New York and New Jersey to come together to celebrate our shared harbor. I would like to commend the Port Authority, which hosts Harbor Festival, for the many activities it initiates in which the two states promote the port cooperatively. Governor Kean is extremely interested in promoting the sport of fishing, because it attracts many tourists to the area."

This year's winners of the Governors' Award from each state for catching a fish closest to the IGFA all-tackle record on a percentage basis are:

New York: Raymond Forte from Staten Island for a 17 lb. 15 oz. bluefish. New Jersey: George Feneis from Oradell, NJ for a 15 lb. 1 oz. weakfish.

According to Jesse York, chairman of the Harbor Festival Fishing Rodeo, "The tournament is growing significantly each year, and is already the largest of its kind on the East Coast,

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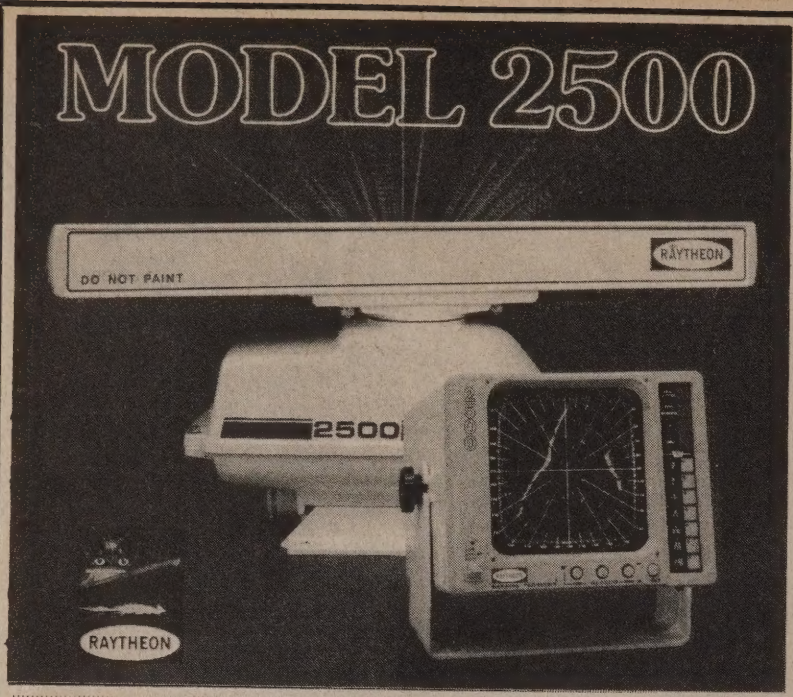

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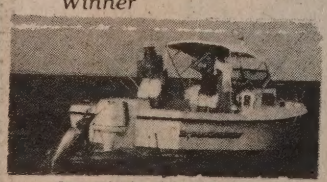

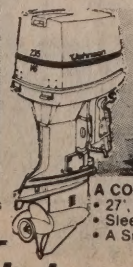

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with over 10,000 anglers participating. We anticipate an even larger number of participants in coming years."

Sponsored by Meister Brau, Mako Marine Boats, Sabre Rods, Rose York Associates and DuPont Quallofill, the Harbor Festival Fishing Rodeo is the only not-for-profit competition in the bi-state area which offers a wide range of fishing categories.

U.S. POWER SQUADRON RENDEZVOUS AT WEST END

Members of the United States Power Squadrons' District 3, the "Long Island District," will hold their first "West End" Rendezvous on the weekend of July 27-28 at the Guy Lombardo Marina in Freeport.

More than 200 Squadronites and their families, representing 20 local Power Squadrons from Brooklyn to East Hampton, are expected to attend the event. Many of the members will come to the rendezvous in sail and power boats.

The weekend will feature games, contests, a chicken and ribs dinner on Saturday and music in the evening. On Sunday there will be a flag raising ceremony officiated by John R. Holub of Seaford, Commander of District 3. Also participating will be Thomas S. Gulotta, Presiding Supervisor of the Town of Hempstead, State Senator Dean G. Skelos of Rockville Centre and Freeport Mayor Dorothy Storm. The flag to be used for the ceremony was presented by Congressman Norman F. Lent and previously flew over the Nation's Capitol.

The rendezvous is the first of its type to be held in the western part of the Power Squadrons' Long Island District. Members of the Great Neck, Hempstead Bay, Jones Beach, Little Neck Bay, Manhasset Bay, Oyster Bay, Sewanhaka and South Shore Squadrons in Nassau County will serve as hosts for the event.

ATLANTIS ANGLERS ANNOUNCE RESULTS OF ITS INTERCLUB FLUKE TOURNAMENT

In the overall club effort category determined by the total weight of the three largest fish hooked and boated by a club as a unit, the Atlantis Anglers placed first and won back its trophy with a total weight of 9 lbs. 11 oz. The Freeport Tuna Club took second place with a total weight of 8 lbs. 12 oz. Third place honors went to Squaw Island Fishing Club for their effort with a total weight of 6 lbs. 8 oz. Individual prizes for the largest fish caught by a single angler were also awarded. First prize went to Paul Pezar, representing the Freeport Tuna Club with a fish of 4 lbs. even. Second place honors went to Hal Eisenbaum, of the Atlantis Anglers with a fluke weighing 3 lbs. 6 zo. Following close behind Hal, another Atlantis Angler, Stan Kaufkin, took third with a fish of 3 lbs. 4 zo. The tournament was held on June 29 and June 30. Eleven clubs on Long Island participated. Prizes were distributed at the Salty Bay Yacht Club, in

Freeport, on July 3rd. The Atlantis Anglers wishes to congratulate all of the clubs who participated in our tournaments, helping to make them a success. We also extend our gratitude to those fishing and bait stations, Reynolds Reef in Atlantic Beach; Lou's in Freeport, Captree Bait and Tackle and Smokey's in Bay Shore, who have acted as weigh-in stations.

The Atlantis Anglers is still offering all interested anglers the opportunity to sign up and share in the club's varied activities. Our club is a Freeport based club with men and women residing in Nassau and Queens. For more information, call Hal Eisenbaum between 6PM and 9PM at (516) 678-4352.

ISLAND PARK FLUKE DERBY WINNERS

1st—A.A. Manfred, Flushing, 4.2; 2nd—Danny Kopp, 3.12; 3rd—Eleanor Ellis, 3.12; 4th—Steve Gawron, 3l.8; 5th—Geo. Tanner, 3.8; 6th—Charles Ingrassia, 3.3; 7th—Henry Pfeiffer, 3.2; 8th—Ben Randazzo, 3 lbs.; 9th—Tom Kaufman, 3 lbs.; 10th—Dave Dweck, 2.14.

Junior Division: 1st—Kevin Mulligan, 2.9; 2nd—Pete Foster, 2.8; 3rd—Robert Righl, 2.2.

DREDGING AT JONES INLET

Rep. Norman F. Lent (R-E. Rockaway) announced today that the American Dredging Company Of Camden, New Jersey, has been awarded a contract for maintenance dredging of Jones Inlet by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The contract in the amount of $3,236,538 was awarded on a competitive bid basis.

The project will also include dredging of the East Rockaway Inlet bordered by Rockaway Beach, Queens County, to the north and west, and Atlantic Beach, Nassau County, to the east and south.

"Shoaling is so severe and rapid that these channels have become a serious safety hazard to the thousands of commercial and recreational boats which navigate these waterways. Last year, the Coast Guard made over 400 missions into Jones Inlet to rescue stranded boats. I'm pleased that the dredging project can now commence so we can once again have a safe, open entrance to the Inlet," said Rep. Lent.

As Ranking Minority Member on the House Merchant Marine and Fisheries Committee, Lent negotiated with the Corps of Engineers to make funding for the dredging project available from the Corps' FY 1985 bidget. The channel, maintained by dredging to a depth of 16 feet and a width of 350 feet, was last dredged in 1982.

"I'm pleased the Corps of Engineers has taken prompt action to ensure that Jones Inlet and East Rockaway Inlet are maintained as safe, navigable waterways for Long Island fishermen and boaters," Lent concluded.

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THE TACKLE DOCTOR

by Russ Wilson

Dear Doc,

This really is not a tackle problem, but it is, nevertheless, affecting my fishing. When I run my 21 foot center console at full throttle it won't come down in the bow. This means we are constantly getting wet and bounced around unmercifully.

What I need to know is how to solve the problem. I have power trim on the engine, so that is not the problem.

Jack Cummings.

Dear Jack,

You did not mention the make of your 21 footer nor did you give the horsepower of the engine. Some boats run bow high due to the amount of weight in the stern. Others are built with the console way back and this, too, will cause the boat to ride high in the boat area. Both problems are easily solved, usually by adjusting the engine angle or by adding trim planes which will bring the bow down quickly.

We, too, suffered through a couple of miserable seasons because we didn't want to install the trim planes. Our new boat was rigged with the trim tabs before it ever saw water and it does handle a lot better with the tabs.

I'd first check the engine angle as it now sits on the hull. You may find the motor just doesn't tilt out enough to bring the boat onto a correct plane when it's running at full bore. You can tilt the engine out more by using the power tilt feature of the motor, provided your present engine has this feature, which you say it does.

If that doesn't do the job, visit one of the local marinas and ask the mechanic or owner what he recommends in the way of trim tabs. It will cost you some money to have the tabs installed but you should make it back in fuel savings and a more comfortable ride.

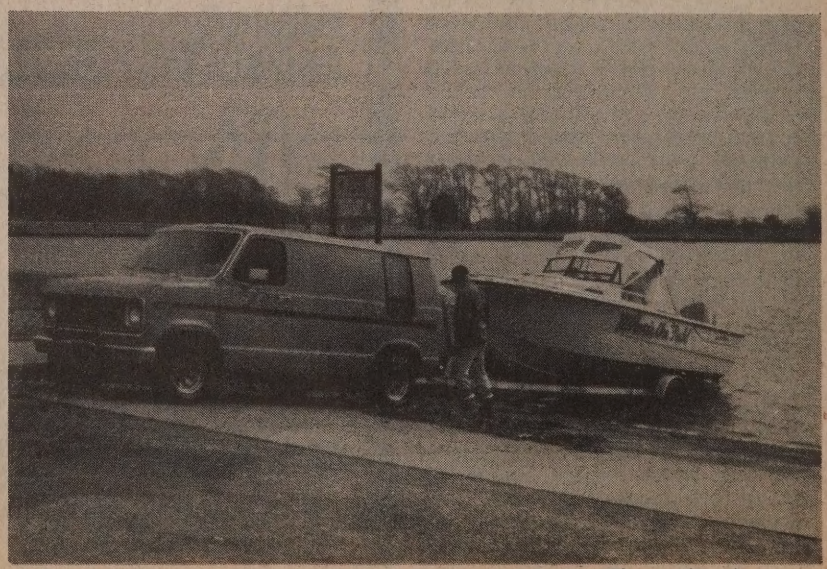
* * *

Dear Doc,

I am a subscriber to The Fisherman and this is the first time I've written. In my coming retirement I am planning to buy a Boston Whaler—13 or probably 15 feet, new or possibly a used 17 footer to fish other inshore spots. The boat will be used primarily by myself, occasionally with my wife.

I am concerned with safety, low fishing expenses, etc. I never bought a boat, nor a trailer or outboard motor. I believe I am leaning in the direction of the 15 foot Boston Whaler. Manufacturers specs state maximum horsepower is 70 and minimum is 20 for an outboard. What horsepower do you advise that would do the job well but will have to watch the dollars. I probably will fish about twice a week for 4 to 8 hours per trip.

Please advise a few names of the best trailers. I am willing to put out



There are many quality trailers on the market today. The author favors those with a galvanized finish for use in the salt.

the initial higher price for a durable product. *Robert Brady.*

Dear Bob,

Your selection of a Boston Whaler sounds good. These are proven boats that have a large following among fresh and salt water fishermen who ply the sheltered waters along the Atlantic. I'd say the 15 or 17 are a better choice than the 13 foot model since both of the larger boats are deeper and will offer a greater degree of creature comfort.

If I were purchasing the boat I'd go with the maximum horsepower (70 hp) so I would not be forced to operate the motor at full throttle. You might try a 50 hp but I would not consider anything less for saltwater fishing situations where you want to get from one spot to another in a hurry. The 70 hp outboard is one of the most economical of all outboards and it will give you plenty of carefree service if treated as manufacturer suggests in the manual.

Today's boat trailers are well constructed and offer trouble free service if manufacturers' recommendations are followed. The Load-Rite, EZ Loader, Cox, Little Dude, have given us good service but most other makes and models will perform equally well. We have tried those mentioned in both painted and galvanized finish and prefer the galvanized since it is resistant to saltwater corrosion. You will pay a little more, but the additional cost is warranted.

* * *

Dear Doc,

I have a very old Penn fishing reel that was originally my grandfather's pride and joy. He used it for many years until his death and then passed it on to my dad, who also fished with it before finally giving it to me as a gift. I've tried using the old reel (which does not have a mark on it), but every time I hook a bluefish the drag either locks up or does not provide any drag whatsoever.

I'd really like to keep—and use—the reel since it has been a family possession for so long, but I do not want to keep losing fish because of it. Is there anyone who can fix the reel so it works, or should I give it the heave-ho? *Jim Wiggins.*

Dear Jim,

I'd keep that reel. Penn is an old line company and their products should last a lifetime if treated with reasonable care. I'd guess your drag washers have had it. Time, saltwater and its effects, and neglect, do take their toll. The drag washers have probably seen better days and for only a few bucks you can put that old reel back into near new condition.

Penn Fishing Tackle Manufacturing Company, 3028 West Hunting Park Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19132 can fix your reel. Ship it to them at the above address with a short note explaining the problem and request an estimate for the necessary repairs.

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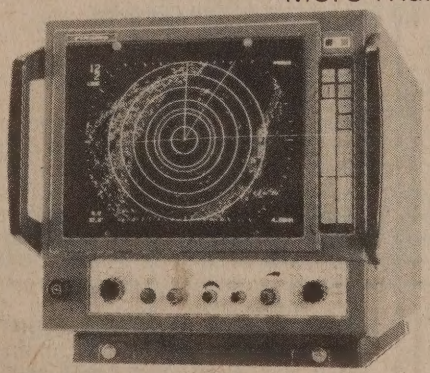

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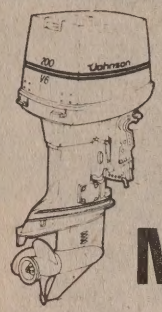

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THE CAPTAIN'S TABLE:

FAVORITE RECIPES

by Jo Chandler

CHOWDER

2 lbs. skinned fillets, cut into one inch pieces
3 cups potatoes, cut into small pieces
3 cups milk
1 cup diced onion
1/4 cup melted fat
2 cups boiling water
1½ tsp. salt
16 oz. can cream style corn
pepper

Saute the onions in the melted fat until they are well cooked. Then add the fish, salt, pepper, potatoes and water. Simmer in a covered pot until the potatoes are cooked (about 15 to 20 minutes). Then add the corn and milk; let it heat up once more and serve.

BAKED PICKEREL

2 lbs. skinned fillets
2 4-oz. cans sliced mushrooms (drained)
1½ cups soft bread crumbs
1 tomato (large) cut into 6 slices
1/4 cup chopped parsley
2 tbs. oil or melted fat
1 beaten egg
1 tbs. lemon juice
1/4 cup diced onion
1/4 cup grated cheese
1½ tsp. salt
1/4 tsp. pepper

Salt and pepper fillets on both sides, then place in well-greased baking dish. Add the onion and mushrooms to the fat and cook until tender; then add the parsley. Mix the lemon juice and egg and brush this on the fillets. Sprinkle the bread crumbs over the fish, add the tomatoes, then lightly sprinkle with salt and pepper. Spread the onion, mushroom, oil mixture over the fillets, then sprinkle on the cheese. Bake in a 350 degree oven. It takes between 30 to 40 minutes. When the meat flakes easily with a fork, it's done.

BLACKFISH WITH VEGETABLES

2 lbs. fillets
1 lb. thinly sliced zucchini
1 large tomato, diced
1 chopped onion
4 lemon wedges
3 tbs. flour
1/4 tsp. oregano
salt and pepper
vegetable cooking spray

First dust the fillets with flour and sprinkle with salt and pepper. Next apply the vegetable spray to the bottom of a large skillet and heat the skillet over low heat. Using low heat, cook the fillets for five minutes, then turn them over. Cover the skillet and cook them for another five minutes or until they flake easily with a fork. Once cooked in this manner, remove the fillets from the skillet and keep them warm. Clean the skillet, then cook the zucchini slices with the onion, oregano, a dash of pepper and 1/4 teaspoon of salt for five minutes with the skillet covered. Add the tomato and continue to cook until the zucchini is crisp, but still tender. Serve with the lemon wedges.

GARLIC CHEESE FISH

This is a good recipe to use with trout, although it works fine with other small fish.

6 pan dressed fish
1/2 can tomato sauce
2 pkgs. garlic-cheese salad dressing mix (¾ oz. size)
2 tbs. oil or melted fat
2 tbs. chopped parsley
2 tbs. grated Parmesan cheese

Combine all the ingredients except the grated cheese. Brush the fish inside and out with the mixture, then place in a well-greased baking dish. Brush the remaining sauce over the fish, the sprinkle with cheese. Let stand for 1/2 hour before baking in a moderate oven (350). Bake for approximately 25 to 30 mins. or until the fish flakes easily with a fork. Next, put the oven on broil and place the fish about two inches from the element until crisp and lightly browned (about 1 to 2 mins.)

BAKED FISH WITH HERB MUSHROOM STUFFING

6 pan dressed fish
1 cup sliced fresh mushrooms
1/4 cup chopped parsley
2 tsp. chopped pimento
2 tsp. salt
4 cups soft bread cubes
2/3 cup sliced onions
4 tsp. lemon juice
1/2 tsp. marjoram
1/2 cup melted butter or margarine

Sprinkle 1½ tsp. of salt evenly over the fish, both inside and out; then let stand awhile as you saute the bread cubes in 1/2 cup of melted butter or margarine. As they brown, add the mushrooms and onion and cook until the mushrooms are tender. Next, stir in the pimento, parsley, marjoram, lemon juice and remaining salt. Toss lightly and stuff fish. Place the fish in

a well greased baking pan. Brush them with the remaining melted margarine or butter and bake 25 to 30 minutes in a 350° oven.

OVEN FRIED FLOUNDER

2 lbs. flounder fillets
1 cup milk
1 cup dry toasted bread crumbs
1/4 cup melted margarine
1 tbs. salt

Mix the salt into the milk and dip the fish into the mixture. Then roll the fish in the bread crumbs. Put the fish on a cookie sheet rubbed well with oil or melted fat. Pour the 1/4 cup of oil or melted fat over the fillets and bake for 10 to 12 minutes in a moderate oven (350).

BEER FRIED FLOUNDER

1 egg, separated
1/3 cup flour
1/4 cup beer
1/4 cup corn starch
3 tbs. melted butter

Beat the egg yolk and mix the butter and beer with it, then add flour and corn starch. Next beat the egg white until peaks form and add it to the mixture. Dip your flounder fillets in this before pan frying.

LEMON FRIED TROUT

4 pan dressed trout or other small fish
1 lemon (cut into 8 wedges)
fresh lemon luice
butter
2/3 cup cornmeal
1/4 tsp. pepper
1 tsp. salt
1 egg

In a shallow dish slightly beat the egg and add 2 tablespoons of lemon juice. Next mix the salt, cornmeal, and pepper, either on a plate or a piece of foil. Dip the fish first in the egg, then in the meal and place two lemon wedges inside each fish and close the fish with toothpicks. Melt 1/4 cup of butter in your skillet and add 2 tablespoons of lemon juice. Fry the fish over medium heat.

BAKED FISH WITH SOUR CREAM STUFFING

Stuffing:
3/4 cup chopped celery
1/4 cup oil
1/2 cup sour cream
1/4 cup diced peeled lemon
2 tbs. grated lemon rind
1 tsp. salt
1 tsp. paprika
1/2 cup chopped onion
1 qt. seasoned croutons or toasted bread crumbs

Cook the celery and onion in the oil until they are tender. Then combine all the ingredients and mix well. This will make 1 quart of stuffing and is usually enough for a 3 to 4 pound fish.

Sprinkle the fish inside and out lightly with salt, stuff the fish loosely and place them in a well-greased pan. Brush the fish with oil or melted fat and bake for 45 minutes to an hour in a 350 degree oven, basting them occasionally with fat or oil.

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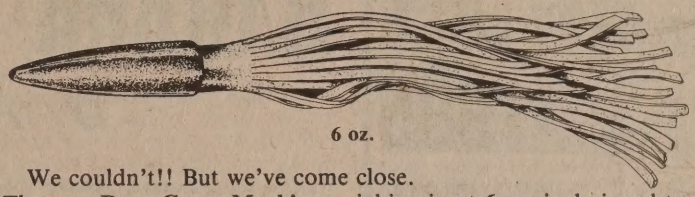

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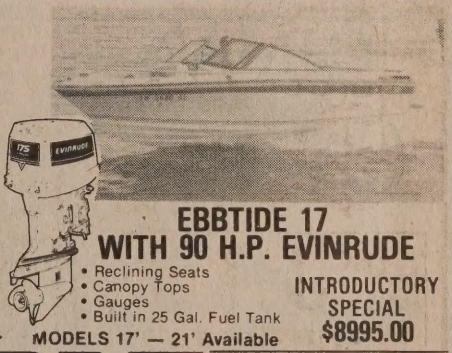

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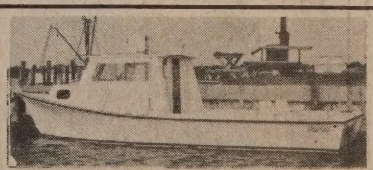

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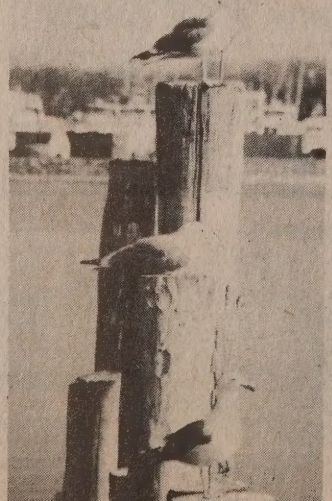
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RECORDS FALL IN HARBOR FEST RODEO

by Al Ristori

The Second Annual Harbor Festival Fishing Rodeo broke all records for both participation and sizes of fish entered. Covering the area from Fire Island Inlet to Manasquan Inlet, this contest offered every angler a shot at fame and fortune. Those without private or charter boats to fish on were able to compete in the Meister Brau Party Boat Division, which ran from Thursday, June 27th right through midnight, Sunday, June 30th.

The Inshore and Offshore Divisions were fought out on the weekend of June 20th to 30th. Just as was the case last year, it was a big weakfish in the Inshore Division which won the grand prize that's awarded to the angler catching the fish closest to the IGFA all-tackle world record on a percentage basis. Last year it was Ron Puma of Staten Island with a 13 lb. 10 oz. weakfish.

Walking off with the grand prize of a Pan Am trip for two to St. Lucia with a week at Marigot Bay Resort and four days of sailing courtesy of The Moorings was Raymond Forte of Staten Island who weighed in a 15 lb. 1 oz. weakfish at Staten Island Bait and Tackle on Sunday morning. Forte was fishing with live bunker in Great Kills Harbor, using a Penn 920 reel, Shakespeare Ugly Stik rod and 8 pound test Stren. That catch moved out a seemingly unbeatable 14 pounder by Ted Ravetz of Broad Channel, and earned the $1,000 first prize, plus the overall grand prize, the Inshore grand prize of an Eagle Mach 1 graph recorder and daily prize of an Abu-Garcia Cardinal spinning outfit.

As it was, Forte didn't finish far ahead of the 14 lb. 5 oz. weak also brought into Staten Island Bait and Tackle by William Surowiec of Staten Island. That fish took second ($500) and the Inshore runner-up grand prize of a Lowrance in-dash digital flasher—and bumped Ravetz back to third and $250.

ANother outstanding Inshore Division catch was the 11¼ lb. doormat fluke taken off Sandy Hook by James Granville of Brooklyn. That catch was a runaway winner of the $1,000 first prize, but Anthony Grasso of Brooklyn barely held on to win the bluefish title at 17 lbs. 9 oz. Robert Mercurio of Monmouth Beach was just two ounces behind with a blue weighed in at Bahr's in Highlands.

There were some outstanding catches made in the Offshore Division. The big money went to Ralph Leyrer's Last Lady III when Captan Paul Bedford put Larry Best on a 314 lb. mako shark to take the Mako Marine Boats Mako Shark first prize of $5,000. That last minute entry at Hoffman's Anchorage in Brielle beat out a 280 pounder by Don Kaich on the Hunky out of Oakdale. However, second place in the Mako Marine Mako category is still worth $1,000.

Winner of the other sharks category was Bob Johnson of Yorktown Heights with a 595 lb. dusky shark taken on Charley Johnson's Tail Roper. In addition to the $1,000 first prize, Johnson also receives the Fish Unlimited Shark Pen Set Award for the largest shark. A 352 lb. thresher shark caught by Dick Orlandi of Babylon on Saturday looked like a winner until a 425 lb. tiger shark was brought in from Hudson Canyon by Joe Masone's Debra. The Sea Hawk VHF donated by Shane's Marine for the shark closest to the IGFA all tackle record on a percentage basis goes to a 237 lb. blue shark entered by Joe Capra on the Lady Arlene.

Fred Hill of Atlantic Beach swept the Sabre Bigeye and Yellowfin categories. Fishing aboard Hill's Four Queens in Hudson Canyon, Bob Arabian of Brooklyn boated a 202 lb. bigeye and Atlantic Beach Rod and Gun Club member Tony Siniscalchi scored with a 124½ lb. yellowfin. By taking these two categories, Hill receives two Sabre 6455 stand-up, 50 to 130 pound class big game rods in addition to the $1,000 checks. Hill also gets $500 worth of M&M squid spreader rigs for the bigeye, which was the tuna closest to the IGFA all tackle record on a percentage.

Joe Masone of Island Park had his only win on the Debra with a 40 lb. albacore, but Masone had cash winners in four offshore categories and won the Offshore grand prize of a Tycoon/Fin-Nor Lite 50 lb. outfit. A non-cash award of $500 worth of Mold Craft offshore trolling lures goes to last year's Offshore Division grand prize winner, Dick Svoboda, for his catch of a 52 lb. 6 oz. white marlin on his Miss Marion—the largest billfish.

The four-day Meister Brau Party Boat Division witnessed some intense competition. Just as was the case last year, Captain Al Coley cleaned up in the bluefish category with his Betty W. II from Sheepshead Bay. However, the one big blue was produced on a Saturday evening trip of the Chopper II from Staten Island.

That 21½ pounder was caught at Norton's Point by Scot McGovern of Staten Island, and it beat out a 19 lb. 9 oz. chopper that had held the lead for George McAllister of Brooklyn since the first day of fishing on the Betty W. II. Just missing out on a cash prize was Kenny Brown who weighed a 17 lb. blue from the Sunday night trip of the Helen H. from Sheepshead Bay. However, that fish came into Mike's Bait and Tackle after the midnight deadline.

The Chopper II also scored with the winning weakfish on the same Saturday evening trip. Richard Phyfer of Staten Island caught one of 13 lbs. 11 oz. to win the $500 first prize and the Party Boat grand prize of free party boat fishing for the rest of 1985 on participating boats. Scot McGovern's bluefish won $1,000, plus the daily prize of a Ryobi rod and reel combo and $500 worth of Shakespeare tackle for using Sigma mono.

Most of the party boat contestants were fishing for fluke, and they did very well despite wind and rain on the first day. Al Ragin of Manhattan took the lead on Friday with a 9½ lb. doormat boated on the Palace II, which sails out of Hoboken and picks up passengers at Pier 40 in Manhattan. However, that fish was tied the next day by one caught on the Capt. Mike II of Howard Beach by Bernie Levine of Brooklyn. Levine was fishing with 8 pound test line when the doormat hit off Floyd Bennett Field in Jamaica Bay. These two anglers will split the $1,000 first and $500 second prizes.

Some impressive Jersey fluke were just behind: a 7 lb. 5 oz. flattie for Steven Kiss of Edison on the Falcon out of Highlands, and identical 7 lb. 3 oz. fluke for Ken Schmitt of Union and Richie Deicco of Maplewood—both of which were caught on the Saturday trip of the Sea Tiger from Atlantic Highlands.

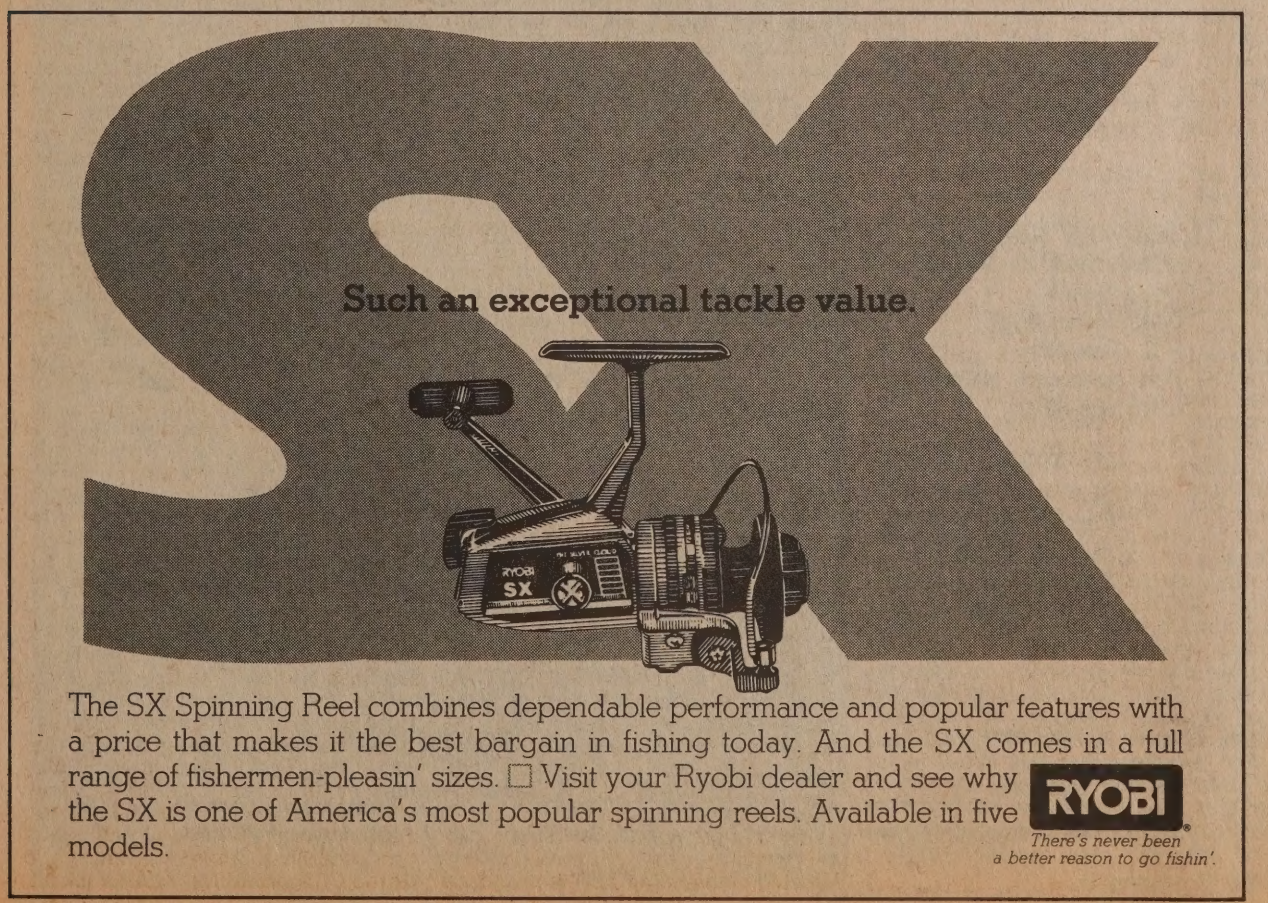
The Meister Brau Party Boat Division blackfish award went to Al Thielcke of Toms River for a 6 lb. 7 oz. tautog taken on the Skipper out of Belmar. The sea bass prize, also $500, was claimed by Milovan Mircic of the Bronx for a 3 lb. 6 oz. catch on the Super Claire from City Island.

The coveted Governor's Cups went to Raymond Forte for his tiderunner weakfish in New York and to George Feneis of Oradell for a 17 lb. 15 oz. bluefish in the Offshore Division. Feneis not only ran away with that category and had the winning fish closest to the IGFA all-tackle record on a percentage basis in New Jersey, but he even won the daily awards for offshore bluefish both days.

In addition to these major winners, there were other cash prizes for all species—with three places in most cases and 10 cash awards for both bluefish and fluke in the Inshore and Party Boat Divisions. On top of all that, there were lots of merchandise prizes for daily and state winners donated by such firms as Ryobi, Daiwa, Abu-Garcia, Reliable Gaff, Julian Tackle, Shane's Marine, Spider Lures, Custom Mounts Lures, M&M Lures, Mold Craft Lures, Bead Chain and Capt. Vic Galgano fishing charts. Each of the 47 boats entered in the Meister Brau Party Boat Division has a winner as a Penn conventional reel is presented to the best catch on the boat during the contest period. Fish Unlimited will provide free mounts of the winning Inshore and Offshore Division bluefish.

Meister Brau Captain's Awards go to the party boat skippers who produced the biggest of each species. Captain Joe Pizzuto of the Chopper II, Staten Island takes both the bluefish and weakfish trophies, while Captain Gary Baletti of the Palace II, Hoboken and Captain Mike Abbaticchio of the Capt. Mike II, Howard Beach shared the fluke award.

The blackfish title went to Captain Dom Vitolo of the Skipper, Belmar, and Captain Howard Berlin won the sea bass crown on the Super Claire from City Island. The Jet-Aer Bluefish Trophy, which must be won twice to be retired, passed from Al Coley of the Betty W. II to Joe Pizzuto for the coming year. The final award, The Fisherman Outstanding Angler Trophy, was awarded to Bob Johnson for his 595 lb. dusky shark taken aboard the Tail Roper. Winners were honored at an awards cocktail party held at the World Trade Center on July 24th.



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CANYON WRECK SERIES:

THE RIO TERCERO

by John Raguso

If you've ever spent any time trolling or drifting over the distant reaches of the edge of the Continental Shelf, this week's wreck analysis will surely be of interest. Nestled almost equidistant between the southerly "Letters" of the Hudson Canyon and "The Cut" of Tom's Canyon and just about two nautical miles due north of "The Edge," lies the Rio Tercero. Her final resting place 460 feet below the ocean's surface is the most remote of all the shipwrecks we're going to cover in this initial series, and one look at the distances to and from this location in the commuter course section will confirm this. You may not want to make a special trip in search of the Rio Tercero's fishing bounty, but it certainly warrants a slight detour to its shadows the next time you're in the neighborhood and have hit a lull in the offshore activity.

The second life of this Argentine freighter, torpedoed by a German U-Boat on June 22, 1942, begins as a fish attracting wreck that lies in 77 fathoms of water close to the vast dropoff, and directly in line with the route that the pelagic tuna, sharks and billfish have been known to take in their yearly migrations.

Let's go back in time now as the second great global conflict approached the summer of the first year of United States involvement, June of 1942. The German U-Boats had been wreaking havoc on Allied shipping for the first few months of '42, especially on Eastern Seaboard coastal merchantmen. They had sunk a staggering amount of freighters and tankers destined for major ports like New York, Boston, Baltimore and Philadelphia with war materials that would never reach their ultimate destination. The German wolfpacks had such a low regard for United States Navy and Coast Guard defenses that they would frequently venture into shallow 70 to 90 foot waters in plain view of New Jersey and Long Island seaside communities to inflict their reign of terror on the merchant marine, as well as positioning themselves at the mouths of Delaware and Chesapeake Bays to pick off their victims as they either entered or exited these geographical choke points. The Nazis were so brazen in their attempts to intimidate East Coast marine traffic that they had boldly declared an official "blockade" of Eastern U.S. ports, no doubt in a propaganda effort to humiliate the Americans in their own back yard.

It is here that the story of the Rio Tercero, which means "Third River" in Spanish, unfolds. The Argentine freighter had set sail from New York Harbor the day before she was sunk, on June 21, 1942. By sunrise on Monday the 22nd, she had made good time en route to her return run to Argentina, and was fast approaching the shelf's edge into 1000 fathom water. It was here where she was jumped unexpectedly by a German sub who fired a lethal tin fish into her side, hastening her demise. Incidentally, this was a favorite practice employed by the U-Boats until the American Navy could develop an extended protective umbrella for coastal shipping traffic with additional patrol boats, flying boats (PBYs) and Blimps. They would hide out during daylight hours in the very same canyons we ply for marlin and tunas. At night the subs would slip in under the cover of darkness to terrorize the well-traveled (and well-marked) shipping lanes that all coastwise merchantmen were required to take. It was in this process of returning to deeper water to hide after a night of inshore raiding that the German

(Continued on next page.)

THE RIO TERCERO
Vital Statistics

Date Sunk: June 22, 1942
Length: Unknown
Beam: Unknown
Weight: 4,866 tons
Hull Construction: Steel
Depth of Water: 460 feet
Depth Over Wreck: Undetermined
Lat/Lon (approximate): 39-15-00N/72-32-00 W
Loran C (approximate): 26240.0/42966.0

COMMUTER COURSES

Port	Distance (Nautical Miles)	Heading (Magnetic) To	From
Shinnecock Inlet	95.7	195°	015°
Moriches Inlet	92.7	192°	012°
Fire Island Inlet	90.0	169°	349°
Jones Inlet	93.0	162°	342°
Debs Inlet	98.5	157°	337°
Rockaway Inlet	102.0	152°	332°
Sandy Hook	101.0	149°	329°
Shark River Inlet	89.1	141°	321°
Manasquan Inlet	87.0	138°	318°

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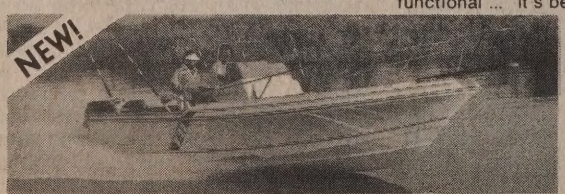

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U-Boat Innsbruck confronted the Rio Tercero.

According to surviving eyewitnesses of the Argentine freighter, the attack occurred without warning in broad daylight at 6:45 AM. Four members of the Rio Tercero's crew were killed instantly by the explosion of the torpedo, which entered the freighter's boiler room where they were stationed. A fifth member of the Argentine crew's complement were drowned when they tried to launch the lifeboats, and a few others were wounded.

The master of the Rio Tercero, Captain Luis Pedro Scalese, described the sinking of his ship in a Columbia Broadcasting System radio broadcast to Latin America. Captain Scalese went on to say, "...to the Air Force and the Navy of the United States, we all want to give our heartfelt thanks for the help extended us."

He went on to tell the audience how five of his crew were lost in the blast. A torpedo tore a huge hole in his ship's starboard side and destroyed the two lifeboats carried on the starboard davits. Two minutes later the port lifeboats were launched, he declared, and the crew drew away from the foundering vessel so that the suction of the sinking ship would not carry them down with it.

The captain continued, "Our only passenger, Dr. Francisco Arambarri, gave prompt and efficient help to one of the firemen who had been slightly injured." Dr. Arambarri told the United Press later on in New York that an American patrol plane strafed the Rio Tercero's attacker and dropped seven bombs at the German submarine before the raider slipped quickly below the surface. He did not know whether any of the bombs struck home.

Dr. Arambarri also said that when the submarine came to the surface after attacking the Argentine freighter, its commander, speaking clear English, summoned Capain Scalese to come aboard and give the name, destination and cargo of the Rio Tercero, under penalty of being made a prisoner aboard the submarine if he did not comply. It was after Captain Scalese replied to the German's request that he ascertained the identity of his ship's attacker, the Innsbruck.

The sinking of the Rio Tercero by the German U-Boat caused increased concern in a growing rift that had been developing between Germany and Argentina. Argentina, along with Chile, was one of the few South American countries that had not joined the U.S. and Canada in a declaration of war on the Axis powers. As such, Argentina felt that this neutrality gave her the freedom to trade with any country and thus, did not recognize the German East Coast blockade. This had proven to be an error in the past and turned out to be a fatal mistake in the case of the Rio Tercero. In fact, two of Argentina's merchant fleet had been attacked prior to that on the Rio Tercero, and

the governments of each side had just worked out an acceptable compensation for the "lamentable German oversight" in the assaults on these ships just a few days before the Rio was sunk. This latest German attack caused several riots in Argentina, as some of the populace saw fit to defend the honor of the home country by storming the German consulate and embassy with rocks, bottles and assorted other missiles. Public sentiment was not as overwhelming as you might think on this issue, since Argentina had a very high makeup of transplanted Italians and Germans living there, whose natural sympathies were with the Axis.

In any event, the controversy over this latest sinking hastened the retirement of Argentina's president Dr. Roberto M. Ortiz. The new government headed by acting President Ramon S. Castillo sent an energetic response to the Germans, protesting the latest outrage, and communicated in a polite but unmistakable language that future relations between Argentina and Germany would depend on the satisfaction of three demands. They were:

1. A salute to the Argentine flag with full naval honors. **2.** Payment of damages, including the value of the torpedoed ship and idemnity to the victim's families. **3.** Positive guarantees that such attacks would not be repeated.

In addition, Argentina would continue to ignore the German naval blockade of the U.S. East Coast, reaffirming Argentina's insistence on respect for the freedom of the seas, but that in the future all Argentine ships would go to New Orleans on the Gulf Coast for trading purposes.

The initial German reaction to the Argentine request for "conditions" met with the response from German officials that there was no German sub by that (Innsbruck) name, since all underwater craft carried only a number for identification (EX. U-153). However, the Germans later met some of these demands in an effort to keep Argentina neutral in the global conflict.

From a fishing perspective, the Rio Tercero's position close to the edge of the Continental Shelf's dropoff offers many possibilities for an assortment of offshore species. Although it's too deep an area for effective anchoring (imagine hauling in 2000 + feet of anchor line) using the standard 5-1 scope theory, this vicinity would seem to be a viable area in which to conduct a comprehensive trolling pattern with lures or to drift fish using chum as an attractor. As I've mentioned before in this series, Greg Venturo of The New Jersey Fisherman wrote an article last year entitled "A Structured Approach to Canyon Fishing." In it he describes the how's and why's to fishing offshore structure to catch more and bigger fish.

Since the Rio Tercero is the only wreck in this general area, I would bet that it gets more than its share of attention from the pelagic gamesters looking for a quick bite to eat. In this article, Greg describes how he was able to bring up a school of yellowfin tuna to crash his lures by constantly criss-crossing the spot that held them 400 feet below the surface until they came up to investigate the ruckus caused by his prop wash.

Suffice it to say that this vicinity holds huge quantities of marauding albacore and yellowfin tuna. In addition, you'll find both blue and white marlin, and perhaps an occasional bigeye tuna. Even though areas like "The Letters" and the "West and East Elbows" are most consistent producers of the bigeyes, the Rio Tercero might warrant a shot if the action dies down at the more renowned spots due to its proximity of decent structure close to a deep drop-off.

Finally, if the winds and currents are favorable, you might want to start a night drift for swordfish at the Rio's resting spot and then slide over the deep edge later on as the night progresses.

The last four installments to the wreck series will have us return to the First World War to review the by-product of that infamous June 2, 1918 U-Boat raid on the shipping lanes off the Jersey Coast. Next week's wreck will be the Puerto Rican steamship Carolina.

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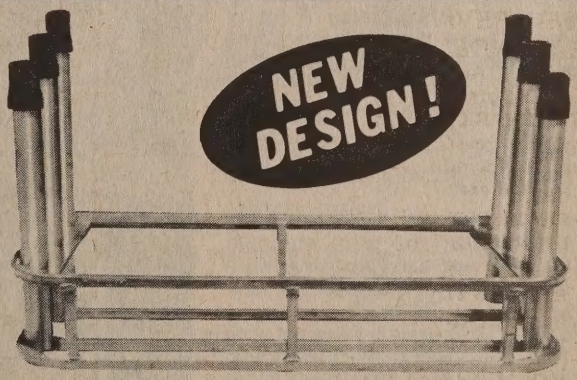

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REMEMBER THE KIDS

by Matt Ahern

What red-blooded all-American kid doesn't like fishing? There are plenty who never get the chance to decide.

I had just stowed my fluke gear in the skiff when this blond kid about thirteen or fourteen walked out on the float and approached me. I didn't pay him much attention until he spoke.

"Mister," he said, "would you take me fishing with you?"

Just like that. No preliminaries; no hemming, no hawing. Straight out with it.

"What...?"

"Fishing. Will you take me out with you?"

"Gee, kid, I don't know," I replied, not knowing what to say to this unexpected question.

"I have all my tackle at the house, it will only take a minute to get it." He looked into the skiff. "You must be going for fluke or weakfish. I see the net."

"Fluke," I admitted.

His eyes lighted at the thought. "I've never caught one. But," he quickly added, wanting, I suppose, to dispel any doubt as to his ability, "I know how to fish. I catch a lot of snappers around here and this spring I caught some flounder and blackfish off this very same float." He hesitated, then added: "I won't be any trouble...honest."

I was a gone gosling.

"Okay, kid, get your gear and let's go."

He was back in minutes. "My name's George," he said, stepping into the skiff and carefully clearing a spot for his tackle. I introduced myself and we were on our way.

We fished a Reynolds Channel area near the Atlantic Beach Bridge that day and while only five fluke were caught, I believe that of the two of us, I had the most enjoyment. It was easy to see the kid had the inborn instincts of a true fisherman and after I had caught a fluke, I decided to devote my time to giving the youngster a pointer here and there. His joy at hooking and landing his first fluke knew no bounds. He was ecstatic. "Boy! This beats snapper fishing all hollow," was his comment.

George and I continued to fish on occasion over the years and the last I heard, he had become so proficient at the art of enticing fish to the baited hook, he had become a party boat skipper in one of the Florida Keys.

Since then I have taken many kids fishing. Some were good fishermen and a joy to have along—and some were strictly a pain in the tail, as most wide-awake kids can be at times. I'm sure that when I first became interested in fishing there were occasions when someone close by wished I'd taken up sand lot baseball instead. I know this because there are times when some of the guys I fish with today wish some of those kids fishing near us would go overboard with the bait. But it's all a bluff; so let's not hold that against these excellent fishermen. Kids are kids, as the old saying goes. And sensible adults wouldn't have it any other way.

A young fisherman in the making.

Especially today.

There are so many inducements for today's kids to get into trouble that I believe any civic-minded fishermen will look about him to see what he can do to ensure the future of our country—and today's kids are our future. In fact, it's the only concrete investment in our country's future we have. Let me say right now that this is still a fishing-type article and I'm not about to preach or moralize. But when I hear some eager youngster who wants to learn the fishing game firsthand being told: "G'wan, kid, get lost!" it bodes ill for us all.

I'm sure George would have eventually become that party boat skipper whether I had taken him fishing or

not, for any kid who loves fishing that much will find some way to put fish in the bucket. But what about those kids who feel the urge to reel in a fish, but are so hyper-sensitive to their surroundings that they become unnerved by the brusqueness of unthinking fishermen? Think about it the next time some kid shows an interest in our sport.

I fondly recall one fisherman who did much thinking about the subject. This was Captain Tom Griffenberg who ran the party boat Survivor II out of Island Park. Tom's retired now, but he was certainly a master fisherman par excellence and a wreck-fishing specialist without peer. I know this for a fact, for I put in a few years with him as mate. And many wonderful, joyous days we had. Sure, we had our slow days like everyone else, but you may be sure they were few and far between.

Captain Tom was one skipper who made it a point to remember the kids. Just about every weekday during summer, two of Island Park's youngsters were guests aboard the Survivor II. That those kids had a ball hooking sea bass and porgies and an occasional fluke from the wrecks we fished, goes without saying. There is no question in my mind that many of these youngsters are still fishing. And I ask you: is that bad?

Anyway, fellers, think about it. You may be sure there are many kids who want to go fishing so bad they can taste it, but they have little opportunity to satisfy that yearning—unless fishermen like you and I notice their plight and do something about it.

From past experience, I can tell you not to be surprised if you discover yourself enjoying your goodwill gesture. As I did, you may even stop fishing for a couple of hours, devoting that time instilling a lifelong love for the fishing game in some eager youngster. It can be a most enjoyable experience. Perhaps for some, it won't be as much fun as dunking their own bait—but what the heck. And remember, the Golden Rule certainly applies here.

And for those who absolutely cannot personally take a kid fishing, there's another way.

Each summer The Fisherman conducts a "Take A Kid Fishing" campaign. It continues to be successful because of the kindness of our fellow fishermen who cheerfully devote their time and money to take kids fishing, kids who perhaps have never gone fishing in their young lives and yet love the thought and ache to go. If you are in a position to help, please do so. Send a contribution (no matter how small) to "Take A Kid Fishing Fund" at the Sag Harbor office. Not only do I thank you, but all those kids who will certainly enjoy themselves because of your kindness will thank you over and over.

And another thing. If you would have the fishing gods smile your way, it won't hurt to remember the kids. It's worth the candle. I know.

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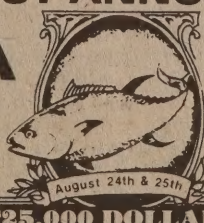

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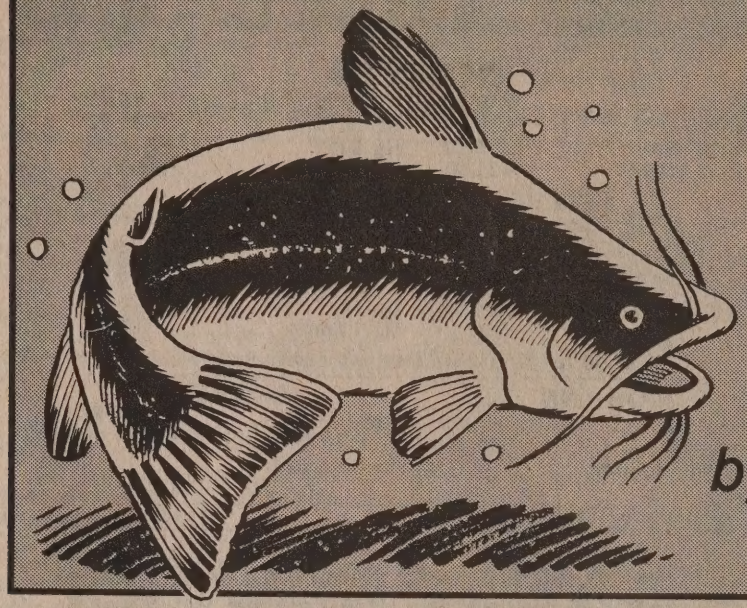

LONG ISLAND STYLE

by Tom Schlichter

The strong tap-tap at the end of the line indicated that another catfish had grabbed my night crawler bait. Softly, I lifted my rod until I could feel the weight of the fish attempting to hold the bait on the bottom. With a short, sharp flick of the wrist, I set home the hook and smiled as the rod took on a shallow bend. Reeling in the line, I could feel the bullhead shaking his head from side to side in an attempt to work free of the hook. This I visualized while hauling it from the bottom. The head shaking proved to be in vain though, as the barb was solidly embedded in the hard corner of his mouth. With little ceremony, I lifted the one pound fish into my inflatable raft and plopped him into the bucket where he would have the company of three brethren. With the crawler still intact, I returned it to the bottom and was soon into another fish.

Those good old boys to the south of the Mason-Dixon Line consider catfishing to be top-notch sport, in fact, some actually fish with nothing more than rubber gloves, sticking their hands into underwater holes and crevices and grabbing channel catfish by the head or tail. Up in this neck of the woods, however, few anglers concentrate on these bottom dwellers. Of course, up here there are not as many species of cats available, nor do they attain the size of prominent southern species such as the channel cat which may exceed 50 lbs. in weight. They do, however, taste just as good as their southern relatives, and this is probably the best reason to learn to catch these whiskered finsters.

For myself, catfish provide entertainment on those days when bass are uncooperative or when I get out during mid-afternoon hours. They seem to bite as well at 1PM as they do at sunset. Many times, I've taken to catching bullheads simply to prevent getting skunked, but I must admit, bringing one or two home for dinner has made this "face saving" much easier to accept. They are eager biters and thus serve as an excellent choice for youngsters or newcomers to the fishing game.

The only species of catfish readily available to Long Islanders is the brown bullhead. It is well distributed in our waters, but does not draw a large amount of angler interest and thus goes completely unnoticed in many lakes and ponds. This fish is easily identifiable, sporting dark brown or, even black barbels. It is generally dark brown on top, shading to a white or yellow belly. The tail is squared. In general, the brown bullhead is considered to be one of the smaller catfish. The world record is only 5.8 lbs. Because this species sports a large head in proportion to body size, anglers tend to guess that the fish they catch are heavier than actually is the case. Most of the fish you are likely to encounter will weigh between 3/4 to 1½ pounds. A two pounder is a big fish. Although they will take advantage of any opportunity to snag a passing baitfish, bullheads are primarily scavengers, serving an important function as they clean the bottom of our lakes and ponds. For this reason, it is important that you keep only what you can eat and release any extras unharmed.

Virtually any light tackle outfit can be used for catfishing. I like to use six pound test line and a light spinning outfit so that I can enjoy these fish as much as possible. A rather unaccomplished battler, bullheads will not run much at all once hooked. In fact, they tend to fight a vertical battle, shaking their head from side to side and, occasionally rolling, much as does an eel. Beak style baitholder hooks in size 6 or 4 are small and strong enough to hook and hold any bullhead in our waters. I've experimented from time to time with long shanked hooks in the hope that they would be easier to remove, but found that, because of the bullhead's tough mouth, the shanks tend to bend as they are twisted free.

Rigging is best kept uncomplicated. In fact, when fishing in still water less than 10 feet deep simply clamping one or two, quarter ounce split shots a foot ahead of your hook will allow the bait to settle on the bottom. In deeper water, a simple bottom rig with a one ounce bank or egg sinker will suffice.

In the bait department, I have found night crawlers to be quite productive but other worms, killies, or even shiners will take a share of fish. When using worms, all you need are two or three inches of bait. Thread the worm up your hook and leave about an inch and a half hanging free, just as you might do for flounder.

It is absolutely imperative to keep your bait on the bottom while seeking these scavengers. Catfish feed by cruising, head down, across the bottom. Here, they swim in a meticulous manner, moving their head in a sweeping motion from side to side until their barbels strike a piece of food or pick up an interesting scent. Bullheads have a keen sense of smell and will quickly work their way to any tidbit in their general vicinity,

but they simply ignore any baits which would cause them to rise more than a few inches.

Once finding your bait, a bullhead is not likely to make any fuss about eating it. Their strike, if you could call it that, is distinctive: usually two light taps, one right after another. Hooking is best accomplished by lifting your rod slightly so that you can feel the weight of the fish at the end of the line. As the rod tip begins to take on a slight set, a short upward snap of the wrist sends the hook home.

Because bullheads tend to take the hook with so much gusto, a pair of pliers is helpful in hook removal. Be certain to bring along several hooks because more than likely you will bend a few while extracting them from the tough, rubbery skin surrounding the mouth.

Bullheads seem to favor open water, frequently concentrating in the deepest hole of a lake. They tend to stay over muddy bottoms whenever possible. Some of the better known locations where they can be taken on a regular basis include Lake Ronkonkoma, the Peconic River System, Hempstead Lake, Freeport Reservoir, Cannon Lake in Patchogue and Byron Lake in Oakdale.

More difficult than catching a bullhead to the uninitiated, is cleaning one. They must be skinned, similar to blowfish or eels, and care should be taken whenever handling these cats to avoid the two sharp spines located beneath the skin just behind the gills. While these spines are not visible, they do exist and can easily puncture a careless hand which grips tightly in this area. Because of these spines, it is suggested that gloves be worn while skinning.

To skin a bullhead, grasp the head in one hand and hold the fish firmly, belly down on a table or carving board. Now make a cut behind the gills, severing the backbone but not cutting more than three quarters of the way through the fish. With a pliers or your hand, peel back an inch or two of skin from the fish's back, separating it from the firm, white meat. Now, get a good grip on that flap of skin and in your other hand, grasp the meat and pull the two apart—just as you do when skinning a blowfish. Wash off the meat and trim any entrails which may have stayed attached and the flesh will be ready to cook.

Bullheads are quite tasty and lend themselves well to a number of recipes. One of the easiest way to cook them is to simply dip them in flour, egg and cornmeal, and fry for about three minutes on each side. A heavy dose of garlic salt and a squirt of lemon add a little zing. Serve piping hot with thick, homemade fries and your favorite vegetable. If you find them as tasty this way as I have, I'm certain that you, too, will make an occasional stop to "save the day" with bullheads and maybe, from time to time, even head out with these tasty critters in mind.

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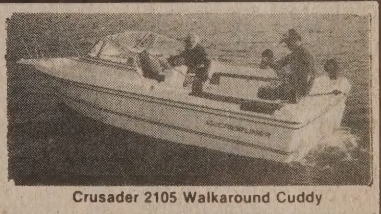

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WHERE JUMBOS REIGN

by Gerald Hahn

Long Island's eastern tip translates into the "finest kind" of porgies for knowledgable sinker bouncers.

In most parts of Long Island, porgies come in three sizes: small, medium and large. On the East End, they come in three sizes too: large, larger and largest. Jumbo porgies, also known as sea porgies and humpbacks, are taken at various times, beginning with their migration from the Continental Shelf to the Peconics in late May and all along Long Island Sound from September to mid-October. In the area between Gardiner's Bay and Montauk, however, jumbo porgies are taken throughout the summer.

Of course, quality porgy fishing, even on the East End, is greatest at the beginning and end of the season (here, in late June and again in September and October). But even so, there are enough jumbos around in midsummer to attract any fisherman who loves to catch them.

I know I do. Having taken humpback porgies while fishing for other species—for example, fluke and weakfish—I am continually amazed at the strength of these silly looking fish. For the truth is that porgies are stronger battlers than fluke and weaks.

Certainly, the porgy's closest relatives, the tropical pinfish and the southern sea bream, are no measure of his fighting ability. Perhaps only the Mid-Atlantic sheepshead is. Yet porgies possess neither the fusiform proportions of the predatory weakfish nor the strange lateral compression of the fluke, which, theoretically at least, should increase their resistance to a well placed hook. Porgies may not look fearsome, but they can perform a number of surprising tasks. For example, the porgy's vertically compressed body enables him to make sharp turns in close quarters. His long pelvic fins, placed forward, aid in braking. The porgy, moreover, can swim with surprising swiftness, by folding his strong dorsal spines in a groove. When he needs to make a sudden turn, the stiff spines lift the dorsal fin to create drag. The sharp spines are also a defense mechanism, as many fishermen with punctured fingers have learned. In the end, perhaps it is a matter of the fish's temperament. Bluefish, for example, shake their heads furiously when hooked. Porgies simply hit and run.

On the East End, fishermen use various kinds of tackle to catch jumbo porgies. For example, meat fishermen favor conventional gear: a 6½ foot boat rod matched with a Penn Jigmaster that is spooled with 20 to 30 lb. test. Other fishermen favor light tackle, however, such as a 6½ foot spinning rod and a small reel comparable to the Penn 450 spooled with 10 lb. test. I've taken jumbos out east with a flounder rod. The problem is, however, that the currents here are not always conducive to light tackle fishing. Depending on the tidal stage, sinkers can range from 2 to 10 ounces in the same water. Consequently, even the light tackle fisherman usually brings along a medium outfit as well, such as a 7½ foot spinning rod and a medium sized surf reel. The choice is yours.

East End rigs for jumbo porgies are similar to those used for smaller fish, although hook sizes vary somewhat. Size 4 beak hooks, with barbs on the shank, are generally used for small porgies; size 2 or 1 are favored for the jumbos. In either case, the hooks are snelled to 12 inch leaders of 30 lb. test and are then tied in tandem or high-low fashion. On the east side of Gardiner's Island, for example, I find a tandem rig (the middle of one snell tied to the end of the other) adequate, even when the current is strong. Around Montauk, however, a high-low rig is more effective. In this arrangement, the hooks are mounted above each other, to dropper loops on the running line. Starting from the bottom, an end loop secures the sinker; then a dropper loop 2 or 3 inches above receives the bottom hook; and another dropper, 13 inches above the first, secures the top hook. In deep water, where strong currents predominate, some people cut back the snells to 8 inches to reduce tangles.

But why these different rigs? Where the current is slower and where porgies feed closer to the bottom a tandem rig is better because it keeps both hooks right on the bottom. Indeed, the hooks are often connected to a snap swivel which also holds the sinker. On the other hand, in exceptionally strong currents, large porgies frequently leap off the bottom in pursuit of a meal. Consequently, a high-low rig is more effective here. Moreover, jumbo porgies need more space, especially when they are competing for food, and a high low rig provides it.

These porgies can be taken on sand worms, clams or squid. Since the baits are larger than those used for small porgies, most people find sand worms too expensive. For this reason, the skimmer clam is undoubtedly the most widely used bait on the East End. The firm, bright yellow "tongue" of the clam is cut in thin strips, one of which is then twisted and impaled several times on the hook. Fresh skimmers, of course, are best, although frozen clams are highly regarded as well. The poorest porgy catchers are salted clams. Salting skimmers toughens them so they will last longer on a hook. Unfortunately, they also last longer because porgies do not relish them. At times, a small strip of squid, 1 inch by 1/2 inch, will attract large porgies when baited in the same manner as clams. Even better, however, is a squid head, tentacles and all.

Curiously, fishermen seldom experiment with other baits for porgies. For example, large porgies have no compunction about feeding on various baitfish. In fact, even the smallest sand porgies will pursue tiny sand eels, shiners and killies. One day last summer, I hooked and released about a dozen sand porgies in quick succession while fishing from a beach on Gardiner's Bay. All the porgies had taken tiny killies and shiners I had netted the week before.

Porgies of all sizes have a reputation for stealing bait. The species, a member of the Sparid family, is well-designed for picking up prey quickly. Porgies have a steep profile and a small pointy mouth generously endowed with incisors up front and molars in back—perfect for rooting out small invertebrates and mollusks from mussel beds, rocks, bits of gravel and sand.

Even the largest porgies are so swift that the slightest slack in the line is all they need to snatch the bait before it touches bottom. Maintaining a tight line is essential to successful porgy fishing. So is finding the most appropriate weight for the rig, especially when fishing in strong currents. For a sinker that is too light will barely touch bottom before it rides up. The fisherman, thinking that the rig has not yet reached its destination, releases more line, which only succeeds in lifting the rig off the bottom once again, until it is too far

The author displays proof positive that East End porgies come in jumbo sizes.

away from the boat. By then, the porgies have either stolen the bait or ignored it altogether, since it's now out of their range. On the other hand, putting on a sinker that is too heavy is like carrying an oversized wallet in the New York subway. The pickpocket porgy steals the bait while the fisherman dreams about a great catch. Using the right amount of lead is critical when dealing with jumbo porgies.

Locating large porgies in the spring and fall is easy, but in midsummer a chum pot helps. Commercial pinhookers (hook and line porgy fishermen) would certainly agree. Out east, they chum heavily with a 30 lb. block of frozen mossbunker. Recreational fishermen need not go that far; a standard chum pot stuffed with ground bunker or a clam log is adequate. Lowered to the bottom and "stirred" every so often, the pot will draw numerous porgies to the boat within a few minutes. Baited hooks, of course, should be close to the pot. Bring along an extra dose of chum if you plan to fish for more than two hours. If the chum pot doesn't attract porgies soon, you're not in porgy territory.

Another way to locate porgies is to drift for them. For example, on the east side of Gardiner's Island, north of Eastern Plain Point, porgies range in depths from 20 to 60 feet. Depending on wind and tide, you can drift from one depth to the other until you get a hit. A marker buoy is then dropped over the side and the boat anchored next to it. The chum pot is lowered and the fishing begins in earnest.

The difference in current strength around Gardiner's Island can be considerable, however. One day here, my friend and I anchored in 50 feet of water and we couldn't hold bottom even with 10 ounces of lead. The chum pot was ineffective as well, for its contents were quickly dispersed in the racing current. In fact, within a few minutes we realized that the anchor wasn't holding bottom. Drifting for porgies in such a current is pointless. What to do? We headed inshore to the 20 foot depths where anchor and chum pot were soon stabilized, and where four ounces of lead was perfectly adequate for the jumbo porgies that soon came flying onto the deck.

At Montauk, the situation is even worse, which is one reason why so many porgy fishermen confine their activity to around slack tide periods. In a short time, they load up on jumbos.

For those who do not own a boat, rental stations are available at Montauk. A larger boat than the standard rental skiff is necessary for fishing throughout this area. For boat owners, launching ramps are available for a fee at Montauk, as well as at Three Mile Harbor, off Gardiner's Bay.

Once you gain familiarity with the strong currents on the East End, you will find the best porgy fishing around. You will know you're in jumbo porgy territory when you start releasing the one pounders.•

AUGUST ACTION

BY FRED GUARDINEER

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SURF FISHING'S LAND OF OPPORTUNITY

by John Fritz

Few places on the East Coast offer surfmen the diversity available at Montauk.

For surf fishermen frequenting the beaches of Montauk, now is the time to relax. The early season pursuits have faded into a mere shadow of what they were a week or so before. This is a time to enjoy the sun and get a tan. If fishing must be a part of one's activities, then play with the harbor blues if they make an appearance, or catch a fluke dinner, if there are any within reach of shore. Short bass could probably be found while working the late tides, but these next few weeks generally provide a lull between seasons, a time to take stock of one's gear, and to plan on how to approach this fall's fishing.

Heretofore, the season has been one which ordinarily provides for the use of light or medium weight tackle. The hectic fall fishing is usually accompanied by high winds, rough seas, crowds of fellow anglers and most important, bigger fish attracted to heavier lures. Dust off the Crack 300, make sure it's spooled with fresh line and check the guides of your 11 foot stick. Take an inventory of your supply of large Needlefish, bottle plugs, darters and heavy poppers and tins, for the season of big baits and big fish lies just ahead. Now is a good time to replenish a supply of plugs depleted in last season's arduous fall fishing or to acquire a selection of Super Strike's new plastic Needlefish. Tackle shops should be well supplied at this time. When the fall run is in full swing, supplies become exhausted and some shop owners are reluctant to reorder so near the season's end.

Montauk's shoreline offers such diverse approaches to surf fishing that the technique chosen for the coming month may require specialized treatment. If such a technique is attempted for the first time, now is the time to gather that gear and familiarize one's self with its capabilities.

Over and over one hears the refrain, "I wouldn't fish the Light if there was a school of 50s hitting everything thrown their way." It's true that this is a precarious place from which to fish but year after year the Light continues to produce quality game fish. In some years, it is the only place at Montauk producing fish, but hopefully the pattern experienced last fall will continue.

The difficulties encountered when fishing the Light can be lessened with the proper equipment and common sense. When towering seas are pounding the bulwark protecting the lighthouse, wise fishermen seek another location from which to cast their lures. Such waves can literally lift an angler from his perch and deposit him on the jumble of rocks below. A broken rod tip is a simple matter to repair, a fractured limb is something else. On normal nights, when these same waves are just sending sheets of showering spray to douse those foolish enough to bar its way, a wet suit offers the best combination of mobility and safety. It is also advisable to obtain some manner of spiked soles for better purchase on these slippery rocks.

The flooding tides are preferred by the overwhelming majority of Lighthouse regulars. The top half of the tide produces the best results, but the initial stages of the incoming, flowing across this shallow shelf, has occasionally granted surprising rewards. Autumn, under the Light at Montauk, has been a time for darters and bottle plugs, but preferably yellow darters. The past few seasons has witnessed a break in this darter-bottle plug syndrome, with bucktails and Needlefish plugs taking an increasingly larger share of the catch.

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(Continued on next page.)

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Bar. Although Scott's and Jones Reef often produce well on the flood tide, North Bar and False Bar are almost exclusively the domain of those fishing the tide at its full ebb. The attire worn by surfmen plugging this area requires less precise attention, but those sporting wet suits and spiked soles will have a definite advantage. Long casts alone are not often sufficient to reach the fish, a time when wet suiters will push out beyond the limits of those clad in conventional waders and top. This is particularly true at North Bar and in Clark's Cove where a narrow bar was formed in front of the customary picket line.

The selection of lures used along this shore is less restrictive than those favored under the Light for it is often possible to get away from the crowd and not be guided by what those around you are using. In recent years the Needlefish has been a most popular plug and last season, it should have been colored green. Who knows what color will be the hot item this year, but in the meantime, darters, bottle plugs and minnow shaped swimmers should continue to take a share of fish.

For a real change of pace, the rocky headlands and coves under the southside bluffs might be given consideration. When sea conditions permit, more consistent fishing is often the reward for those undertaking the added effort needed to reach these areas. Even though wet suiters enjoy the advantage of fishing from the more distant rocks, anglers wearing waders take a decent share of fish. The entrance is gained via the path from the Lighthouse parking lot, from Ditch Plains in the west, or by a secret route in-between, those unfamiliar with the area are advised to investigate beforehand in the light of day. Choose a flat rock or a specific area to fish and familiarize yourself with its location, finding it at night can be a totally different experience. In the past, loaded 7 inch RedFins were the favorites of those plying these shores but, here too, the Needlefish is quickly making converts. Opinion is divided as to which is the best tide for this area. Many regulars prefer from the top of the tide down, but there are those who achieve better results on the incoming tide. On occasion, the perch which are produced at high water will eventually be surrounded by water to shallow to interest game fish. This can be overcome by simply moving to a rock further off the beach, a much easier task if the angler is familiar with the area.

You don't like rocks? That's okay, there are plenty of fish to be had along Montauk's sandy beaches. This is the shore where the beach buggy comes to the fore, but for those not so privileged, there are numerous excellent locations situated within walking distance of hardtop parking. Ditch Plains, Surfside, the Glass House, Gurney's, Hither Hills or White Sands are but a few of the better

known areas.

Novice surfmen might wonder why certain areas, along a seemingly indistinguishable shore, are more likely to contain fish. A study of these beaches indicates that most of the more productive areas are accentuated by a recognizable seaward bulge of the shore, at a point which very nearly meets the parallel bar. The white water frequently associated with these locations and the pockets normally found on either side of these points, is a variation in an otherwise identical shoreline. Anglers working these beaches after sunset have a better chance of beaching weakfish and decent sized bass. The Needlefish again being the current favorite lure. When sea conditions permit, the larger swimming plugs produced well in the past and should be tried on those infrequent occasions when the Needlefish fails to generate interest.

Tides here hold less importance than in other areas of Montauk, but in certain instances, the lie of the offshore bars makes it impossible to cast to deep water during the lower stages of the tide.

So now you dislike the ocean surf; well, we can take care of that also. Take East Lake Drive to its end and you'll find a mile or so of beach that stretches from the inlet jetty to Shagwong Point. Not many tourists bother with this area during the fall run, but knowledgeable surfmen keep it in mind when the more popular beaches are not producing. Here they are occasionally rewarded with fine sport, far from the maddening crowds and the turbulent surf of the open sea. Medium and lightweight tackle can still be put to use when winds from the north cease to howl. This fact alone presents a plug caster with a greater variety of prospective lures. In addition to everything else tossed into the sea around Montauk, five inch models of the minnow shaped swimmer can be added to the list. Regulars working the Shagwong shore have long preferred the falling tide, a tide delayed approximately one hour after the light.

Possibly night fishing is beyond the scope of one's aspirations. If so, the daytime surf is predominantly bluefish, starting with the multitudes of small fish that flood any given beach in early autumn, to the monster blues which continue to please through the better part of November. As a bonus, daytime encounters with striped bass and weakfish are a distinct possibility, particularly under leaden skies and blustery east winds.

Montauk in the fall is many things to many people. No group of people is served more completely than the surf caster. Those who have never experienced its wonders are urged to do so. Those who have attempted only one aspect of Montauk surf fishing are urged to try something new. Now is the time to plan for the fall run, for once it is under way, time is too precious to waste gathering gear and making preparations.

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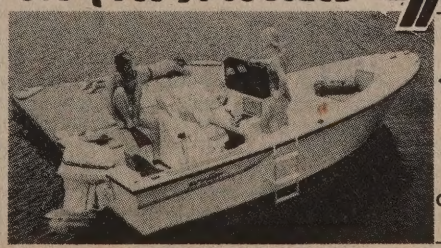

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GETTING SERIOUS ABOUT BLUE CLAWS

by Sal Agliano

While many of us look towards crabbing as a casual pasttime, there are those who take it downright seriously.

Have you often wondered why some fellows have all the luck? It's funny how there is always one guy in the group who continually outshines the rest in one particular field of sport. Take my fishing buddy, Johnny Calamia, for instance. When it came to crabbing, I used to think he carried some ancient lucky charm or had his own personal fishing god overlooking his every move. But after many years of shoulder-to-shoulder crabbing with Johnny, I soon realized that luck and divine intervention had nothing to do with his success.

Johnny is a bona fide crabbing fanatic who delves deep into the sport with unbounded enthusiasm, a keen eye and sharp instincts. At times, I do believe he would rather crab than fish.

For me, crabbing had always been a casual pastime, an interim sport. It was a pleasant way to fill the gaps when finfish action left much to be desired. That's not to say I didn't know what it took to put a decent number of blue claws in the bucket; but I never really honed the art to a sharp edge as I had for my rod and reel pursuits. And surely, I had never put as much energy into crabbing as my astute comrade, Johnny Calamia, had.

But over the years, Johnny's undying passion for crabbing and penchant for details had somehow rubbed off on me. I started to pay closer attention to those finer points Johnny so skillfully mastered. As a result I was able to improve my catch and surprisingly, elevate my interest.

There is no great mystery to crabbing. It is a relatively uncomplicated sport, the methods of which have been virtually unchanged for decades. With a minimum of know-how even the most casual crabber can gather a modest haul of blue claws. But it is the serious crabber striving to perfect the art of crabbing who will, time after time, come out on top.

There are three common methods of crabbing. The simplest form is scapping—collecting crabs from pilings and the undersides of piers. No bait is required and the only equipment you will need is a bucket and a long-handled scap net. In a pinch, a tightly weaved landing net will suffice, although its shorter length will limit its overall use.

Crabs, especially blue claws, are master escape artists. Once you spot your quarry, you must act with the utmost speed and accuracy. Thrust your net directly under the crab and without hesitation lift swiftly and continuously.

Diligence and perseverance are the key words in scapping crabs. It is like a game of hide and seek; and you must do the seeking. Be prepared to cover a lot of ground, examining each piling you come across and every inch of pier. Don't overlook pilings from which a catch had been made only moments earlier. Double back from time to time. Quite often another crab will be attracted to the same spot its brethren had previously occupied. The main thing, however, is to keep moving and keep checking.

Many times I had watched in awe as lucky Johnny hopped around like a rabbit from piling to piling scapping more crabs in an hour than I had all day.

For us lazier crabbers, box traps afford a more leisurely approach to crabbing. In-between checking the traps, you can fish or just relax and enjoy the sea air. Or you can do as Johnny does and set out a dozen or so traps and keep hopping all day.

As for bait, bunker seems to be most popular among crabbers and crabs alike. Actually almost any bait will do. Mackerel, squid, killies, snappers, fish heads—all work well. Some fellows even use chicken parts with surprising results.

Whichever bait you select, it is important to wire it securely to the middle of the bottom inside of the trap (I use leftover trolling wire). A good idea would be to slash the bait in several spots. This will enable the aromatic juices to escape and flow into the surrounding waters, hastening any crab's venturing into the trap. Additional weight wired to the bottom of each trap will prevent its tipping over or being carried off by sudden, swift changes in the current. I generally secure a 12 or 16 ounce sinker under and at the middle of each trap.

To set the trap, lower it slowly and straight down into the water until it reaches bottom. As for depth, much depends on the location. I've taken crabs in as little as a foot of water and as much as 20 feet. I was more successful in very shallow water on overcast days or in areas where a heavy groundcover of sea weed was present. In deeper water I was more successful on slack tide. These are personal observations of the areas I frequent and not hard facts. Experimenting in a given area is the only key factor in determining the most advantageous depth.

Once the trap reaches bottom, feed out just a bit more line to allow the trap's doors to drop open. Leave no more than two or three inches of slack in the line before tying it down. Examine the trap's line from time to time, especially during a moving tide. Release more line as needed to be sure the trap is on bottom. Take up line if necessary so you needn't fumble with excess line the next time you check the trap.

I wouldn't suggest tossing the trap out into the water unless absolutely necessary, but if you must, with the utmost care. First of all, the trap could possibly settle upside down or over some obstruction that would prevent the doors from opening. Secondly, when you check the trap you may have extra line to play with before you can properly close the doors. This may signal any crab feeding in the trap that something is amiss, hastening its departure.

Check the traps at about 15 minute intervals—sooner if the action is hot. Gently grasp the trap line and lift high in one continuous motion. Keep the line taut, then in hand over hand fashion, take up line until you can safely ease the trap onto land. Usually, you can feel the crab's presence as it rattles around trying to free itself while you are raising the trap. But don't let that be your only indication that you have made a catch and make the mistake of lowering the trap before you have made visual contact. At times, the hungry crab may be too busy eating to realize it is trapped until it is lifted out of the water.

Once a catch is made, the next step is to transfer the crab from the trap to your bucket. Simple, you say? Just take the trap and shake it over your bucket until the crab drops out.

Actually there is an easier way. Don't feel bad; I had been shaking crabs from traps for many years. Unfortunately, it usually shook everything else apart. Then I had to rewire the bait, re-assemble the trap; precious time was lost. But all those years I figured it was one of those annoying things we sportsmen had to live with much like bird's-nests and bottom fouled rigs.

Then one day I watched Johnny remove his catch with such ease, I realized my method had been unnecessary, to say the least. With the trap placed on the pier, Johnny lowered one of the doors, allowing the crab to venture out on its own. He then gently placed his foot on the crab's back with just enough pressure to immobilize it. Reaching from behind the crab, Johnny took a firm grip on both claws, thus rendering the crab defenseless. With no fuss, no bait to be rewired, no trap to be reassembled, and no fingers bitten, Johnny deposited his catch into the bucket.

On first application, I must confess I needed a bit of practice to master this maneuver. I recall one swift crab that escaped my foot's hold. I chased it down the pier a good 50 feet before it dropped off the pier and into the water with myself precariously a foot short of doing the same. But in short order I was able to accomplish the task as well as Johnny—well, almost!

Another method of crabbing, killy rings, provides a sportier approach to crabbing. The crab is neither trapped nor scooped, but lured with bait, then worked to the surface much as you would a drop line.

To fashion killy rings, I use 12 inch lengths of thin, but sturdy, flexible steel rods. Live killies are threaded and bunched up on the rod. Open loops are formed at each end of the rod, then twisted together shaping the rod into a ring. It is best to thread the bait closely onto the ring. Push the rod through the fish's mouth and instead of out its gill, let the rod tip break skin and exit close to the tail. With loosely strung killies, the crab has a better chance of ripping the bait off the ring. Thus, more frequent rebaiting and less time in the water.

Tie a line into the ring and toss it into shallow water. Some fellows use trap line, but I prefer to use a 30 foot length of 20 pound test fishing line.The fishing line is almost invisible and less likely to evoke the crab's suspicion.

To check the ring lift it very slightly off bottom. If you feel extra weight or movement, continue to take in line very slowly and evenly. The crucial part is just before the crab reaches the surface. This is usually a two man job: one bringing in line slowly and steadily; the other ready with the net to scoop up the crab as it is drawn to the surface.

Light-fingers Johnny Calamia, however, can handle both jobs with no problem. With his left hand he takes in line in a slow twisting motion using his pinky and thumb. With his right hand, he scoops up his catch with the net. I, on the other hand, find it safer to use both hands to take in line and bestow the honor of netting the crab to Johnny.

For those who take their crabbing seriously, the rewards can be great!

Aside from scapping and using box traps or killy rings, there is another method of crabbing I recently heard of that merits mentioning. I learned of this obscure crabbing technique from a West Indian friend who, with his wife, snatched crabs from the Texas side of the Gulf of Mexico using, strange as it may seem, a women's nylon stocking.

They stuffed the stocking with bait, tied a knot at the top and secured a line just below the knot. My friend claims that when the crab attempts to get at the bait in the stocking, the fine points under its claws become entwined and trapped in the fine mesh of the nylon. All my friend and his wife did then was bring their catch to the surface, pull its claws free of the nylon and deposit their catch.

I had never heard of such a method before, and neither had Johnny after I casually mentioned it. I began to think about this unusual approach to crabbing very seriously. Oh, how I relished the thought of beating Johnny just once—and at his own game!

I decided that this summer I would make a few solo trips for crabs. Feel out this new technique. Perfect it if I could. Then invite my die-hard crabbing aficionado, Johnny Calamai, for a day of crabbing. Maybe my luck would change. Only time would tell.

Now where did I put my lucky fishing hat?

HAPPY HOUR IN "THE BIGHT"

by Terry Maltese

Metro area anglers partake in fine bluefish and weakfish action during the magic evening hours.

Evening fishing for blues and weakfish has grown quite popular in New York Bight of late. The fact that many of us have to work during the day and would like to fish more often than just on weekends, plus the fact that the hours between 4:30PM and 9PM are very often some of the most productive hours of the day are two main reasons for this. I particularly enjoy this type of fishing also, because long rides aren't usually necessary as with some daytime journeys and because, unlike the nighttime bluefishing, this late afternoon-evening fishing is done with jigs.

I do my fishing from my own 18 foot private boat, but quite a few Sheepshead Bay party boats participate in this fishing. Most of them leave about 5PM and return about 10PM. If you choose to do your fishing from a private boat you should try to leave the dock a bit earlier than this, if it is possible. By doing this, you give yourself some extra time to fish on your own before the crowds build.

When trying to locate fish, you must scan the water as far as you can see. Very often, you will find diving birds or fish breaking water as you pass the jetty. Don't drive right into the school. This will only scatter the fish and drive them down deep. Run the boat around the diving birds or breaking fish, stop the boat updrift of them, and allow the boat to drift into them. You should also keep your eye on other boats and see if they are picking up any fish. A congregation of boats packed closely together is very often a sign of fish as well. Because scanning the water for fish, diving birds and other boats is so important, it is a good idea to bring along a pair of binoculars.

If none of the above mentioned things are visible, don't be afraid to try fishing blind. We've caught many bluefish by just stopping and fishing blind in an area where we have caught fish before. While we are on the subject of locating fish, it might be a good time to cover some of the better areas.

The Tin Can Grounds usually produce quite well. Occasionally the fish will be inside the tip of the Breezy Point Jetty right along Rockaway Beach. We've caught fish within 50 yards of Rockaway Beach. If the area around the jetty doesn't produce fish you can head east and ride along the beach or head out towards Ambrose Channel. The latter is usually the better choice. Actually at this point your best bet is to go wherever the party boats are going. They are only out there for four or five hours, so they make it their business to find fish near home. Be sure not to crowd them.

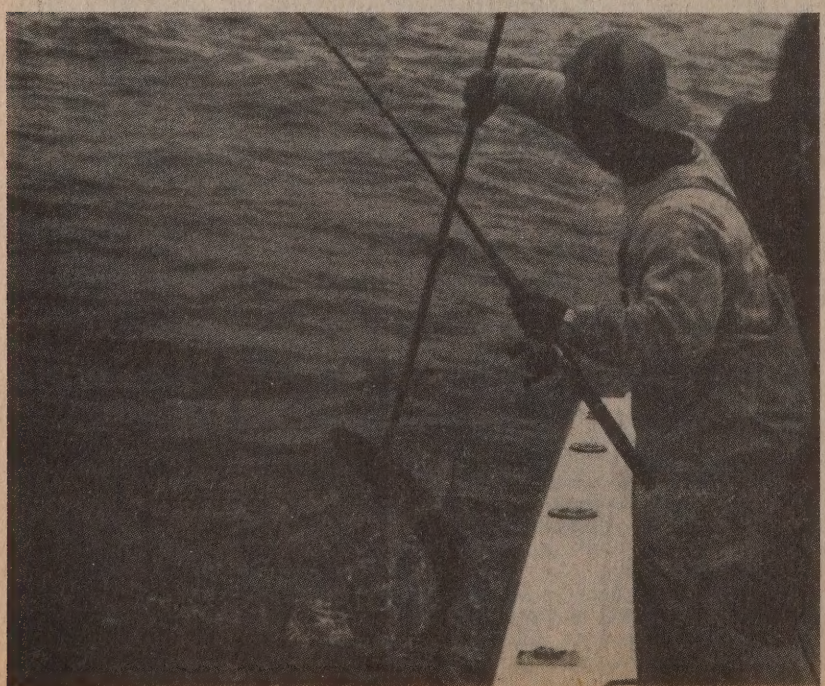
The water between the jetty and Ambrose Channel, around Ambrose Channel and between Ambrose and Sandy Hook Channels often produce quite well also. Some afternoons all of the fish will be concentrated off Sandy Hook or the Atlantic Highlands. In a moderately fast boat with a calm sea this should only be about a 20 minute ride from the jetty.

Unfortunately, there will be some rare afternoons when fish won't be found at any of the above mentioned areas. At this point you will observe some boats remaining in these areas and making blind drifts in different spots and some boats running south along the Jersey coast. At this point, you must take things, such as the time and weather conditions, into account and decide if you want to make that trip. Don't worry too much about this, because it doesn't occur that often. Everyday won't be a slaughter, but you will usually find some fish close to home.

This type of fishing is done strictly with jigs. An A27 (3 oz.) with a tail usually works fine on the blues, but I've discovered that a smaller version of the A27, known as the 007 (1 oz.) with a tube often produces better. The 007 also allows you to use lighter tackle, which is always more fun. I now use the 007 much more often than the A27. As for the color of the tube, I have found that green and red usually produce best, but try to have a variety of colors.

Using these jigs is actually quite simple. Cast out the jig and allow it to hit bottom. Then engage the reel and retrieve the lure fast. When you feel the strike, set the hook with a quick snap of the rod. If no strike is felt, simply cast out the lure again and repeat the process.

If you see some weakfish being caught or you feel you have enough blues and want to try for some weaks, you should take a different approach. A few seasons ago a lure known as the Bait Tail was a hot weakfish lure in the Bight. Then came along a lure known as the Nordic Eel. The Nordic Eel was very similar to the Bait Tail, except that it had a long, whippy tail which gave it more action. This is the lure you will want to have a good supply of. Weakfish will hit a slowly retrieved A27 with a tube, but I believe they prefer the Nordic Eels. You will still catch blues on these Nordic Eels and it isn't uncommon for



Nordic Eels have had the edge over diamond jigs on weakfish in recent years.

the blues to steal a few of these lures, so try to have a good supply of them. Amber, red and white eels are the most commonly used colors, so try to have at least a few of each.

Working the Nordic Eels is a bit different from using the diamond jigs, but is not difficult at all. Simply cast the eel out and allow it to settle on the bottom. Then engage the reel and begin retrieving it slowly. As you are retrieving it gently and slowly snap your wrist every few seconds to give the lure more action. Although jelly worms are a very effective weakfish lure in other areas, New York Bight is not a good place to use them. This is because the Bight is loaded with blues and they will simply destroy the jelly-worms.

Don't expect the weakfish to hit the lure like a bluefish. They won't strike a lure hard. They will pick it up gently and sometimes you won't even feel them pick it up. When you feel the extra weight, just gently set the hook, hold the rod tip up, and begin reeling in. Don't try horsing the fish in.

As for tackle, it is a good idea to carry at least two rods along. You will want a medium action boat rod to handle the A27s and any large blues that might show up. Our personal choices for this outfit are 6½' custom made conventional rods. One is armed with a Daiwa Sealine 30H and the other with a 50H. Both are filled with 20 to 30 lb. test Ande mono-filament. Although these rods have some backbone, they are far from being standard boat rods and have quite a bit of action.

Your second rod should be quite a bit lighter. A light conventional rod or a two-handed baitcasting outfit will do fine. We use custom made fairly light 7 foot rods. One is armed with a Daiwa Sealine 27H and the other with a Shimano Bantam 300. Both reels are loaded with green or clear 14 lb. test Trilene. These rods are perfect for the 007s as well as the Nordic Eels. Spinning equipment can be used also, but I prefer conventional outfits. When choosing this type of rod, try to get one with a light tip and some backbone.

A few seasons ago we always seemed to have a few weaks mixed in with the late day blues. Unfortunately, the last few seasons haven't produced nearly as many weaks. The blues have still been just as plentiful but the weakfish just haven't made any great showings.

It is definitely a good idea to have a gaff on board. Most of the blues can be swung in but some will be too heavy for that. Don't try swinging in any weakfish that you plan on keeping because there is a very good chance that the hook will tear free from his tender mouth. Aside from the weakfish and big blues, you might get a chance to use the gaff on a big bass, while doing some of this fishing.

Next time you can't get out for a full day of fishing, don't give up completely. Wind down with a session of evening jigging in the Bight.

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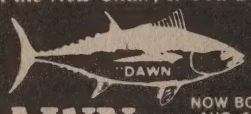

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East End REPORT

with Mrs. Lorry Mangan

A combination of summer slow-down and tropical storm Bob put a temporary dent in fishing. Fluke, however, have picked up the slack, with nice catches reported in Montauk waters. Tuna have slowed, hopefully will regroup after the effects of the storm wears off. Blues are in strong. Porgies, sea bass, triggerfish and snappers filling in sthe void.

MONTAUK

Shark and tuna dominated the offshore scene at **Captains Cove Marina**, according to Joan. Captain Bruce Keiffer boated a giant tuna of 570 lbs. last Monday on the **Ebb Tide**; five school tuna with bluefish on the weekend. Capt. Jack Passie, fishing with Dan Minnerly of Highland, NY put a 113 lb. mako on the **Windy**. A hammerhead of 170 with Allison tuna (80 lbs. caught on 30 lb. tes' ,ne)

Stephen Flores appears mighty pleased with the 680 lb. giant tuna he whipped aboard the Montauk based charter boat, "Dawn."

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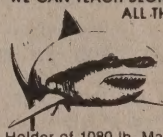

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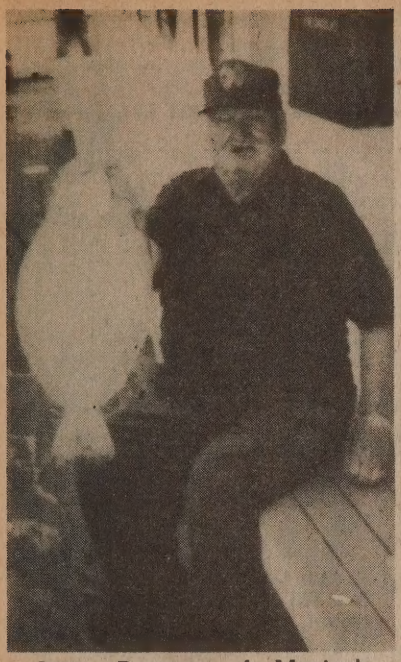
Bruce and Karen Newmark trolled this fine striper during a recent stay at Montauk. Photo courtesy of Gone Fishing Marina.



Steve Bowman of Montauk decked this 8 lb. fluke a couple of weeks back, aboard the Montauk open boat, "Marlin IV."

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were boated on the **Cricket**. Tom Brennan found a 143 lb. mako on Saturday, fishing on his boat Nora-John. The marina based boat "Suzy" found black fish and sea bass at the Frisbees. Recently, 6 yr. old Jessie Chowanec boated a 5 lb. fluke while fishing with his grandparents on the family boat, Knee Deep. The youngster also caught a 12 lb. weakfish! Inshore fluking is pretty good at the North Rips and Shagwong. Captain Fred had a nice catch of fluke on the charter boat **Misty.** A 10 lb. fluke was caught on the "Hurry-up" on Saturday.

Maureen reports lots of inshore and offshore action at **Gone Fishing Marina** the past week, including the weekend after the storm. On Sunday, the crew of the marina based boat, Partnership, put 70 cod on the dock, caught at Cox's Ledge, with a few pollock. Levi Citarella tried the north side of Block Island for weaks, finding 13 nice fish. Porgies and sea bass were caught on the south side by a group who also bagged 36 fluke on the trip home. Maureen stated that many anglers found the rips east of Washington Shoals particularly good for fluke over the weekend. Chris Smith found yellowfin tuna of 125 lbs. and 60 lbs, while Rocky Point resident Richie Reynan fishing with Vinnie Gottmeyer had a couple of yellowfin in the 60 lb. range.

Charlie weighed two giant tuna on Sunday at the **Star Island Yacht Club**, one of 507 lbs. for Sam Cardinale caught on the "Semana," and one for "Sneaky Pete" Ryan, whose fish weighed 392 lbs. The South Norwalk Boat Club held a shark tournament over the weekend with 25 boats entered. First place was taken by Capt. Bob Ullman on the "last Call"—a 164 lb. blue shark. Second place, a 156 lb. mako was caught by Capt. Jim Ferrone on the "Jim Lor III." Tommy Gardellas came in with a blue shark that weighed 247 l bs., but unfortunately was too late for the weigh-in. Inshore action in fluke is pretty good, according to Charlie, with lots of bluefish around. Although the action in porgies is not up to last year's frenzy, a 2½ lb. porgy was weighed in this week.

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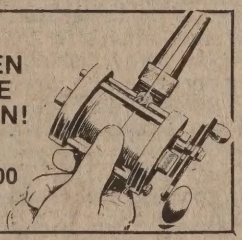

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Henry Uihlein reported a slowdown in activity at **Uihlein's Boat Rentals** due to the storm last weekend, however some fluke were taken on Sunday at the North Rips with some of the fish measuring 18 inches. When weather is inclement or threatening, Lake Montauk has a year-round population of flounder eager to be caught. Tinker mackerel still abound in the lake.

Captain Richie Rade states that fluke are holding up very well with fish of very good size being caught in amount of anywhere from 5-10 per

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Arleen Carman got the best of this 488 lb. giant tuna during a recent trip aboard the family boat, A Team. The big bluefin was weighed at Montauk Marine Basin.

angler. On Thursday, George Kastertooter had a total of 8 fluke—the largest a doormat of 12 lbs. on the **Marlin V**. Night bluefishing slowed down the night after the storm, however over 100 blues were boated. Average blue is in the 10-12 lb. range, with the pool usually 16-18 lbs. Most blues are baited either at Cartwright (a 45 min. ride) or at Block Island (1½ hr. trip). By now the bluefish will have gotten over the effects of the sotrm and average catches should have returned to 25 or so per angler.

Pat called to say that porgy action on both the **Little Bear** and **Flying Cloud** has improved dramatically, with a few surprises. On Wednesday while porgy fishing on the **Flying Cloud**, Hostian Velez of the Bronx tangled with an 11 lb. bluefish, hooked and then battled successfully on porgy tackle. Sunday's trip, after the storm ran into lots of porgies, along with blackfish to 8 lbs., some sea bass and fluke as well. Carl Hotnit brought 57 porgies and blackfish back to St. Albans. Bob and Mae Johnson, New Jersey residents, combined for a total of 128 porgies!

Last Wednesday, a group from NYC: Rick Schowell, McKinley Butts, Jr., Newton Dowy and Roy Williams bailed porgies, putting 163 into their cooler—Rick's largest weighed 4 lbs. at the dock. OVer the weekend, George Powell of the Bronx caught 43 scup, while Francesco and Veronica Valdez put 59 porgie, some blackfish and sea bass into their buckets on the deck of the **Little Bear**. Captain Dusty is certain that after the upcoming full moon porgy fishing will get even better! Come on down!

Captain Paul Forsberg of the **Viking Fleet** reports that fishing is great, with codfish exceptionally good at Cox's Ledge. The determining factor in good cod trips is whether or not the wind will allow for a good drift, since the fish are not biting as well on anchor. Pool fish is usually over 30 lbs., however, average fish is 5-8 lbs. Fluking is very good at the North Rips, with most fish under 5 lbs. A 5 lb. 2 oz. seabass both surprised and delighted one angler during the week, when the bass jumped on a squid strip meant for a fluke!

Viking daytime bluefishing is hit or miss, but will get better as the summer progresses. Night blues are fantastic in general with an occasional slow night. Last Tuesday, Patchosgue Fishing Club Junior member, Artie Felice hooked and landed 15 blues top weight 11½ lbs. Eleven year old Artie said best catches were made on herring drifted a few feet below the surface.

Because of Saturday's sea conditions (a big heave on the ocean) **Edelman's** Lou Rosado fished for fluke on the Bullet at the Pocketbook in the morning. Later, when the ocean calmed, the group tried the Hooter Buoy at Block Island. Lou, Nick Matzkiw and Bill Streneise caught 26 fluke, top weight 8 lbs, most at Block Island. On Sunday's trip to Cox's Ledge, "Codfish" Cathi boated the first cod and also the largest, a 30 lber. with Dr. Mel, Bob Ishkanian and Lou. Since northeast winds inhibited a proper drift, most fish were caught at anchor. About 30 cod were caught, most over 10 lbs.

At the **Montauk Marine Basin,** Tom found that tuna action moved from the Mud Hole to the Butterfish Hole, south of Montauk. On Sunday, a tuna of 605 lbs. was caught on the "Hooker" and one of 666 lbs. on the "Michell IV" with Capt. George Seaman. There seems to be a good deal of tuna around as evidenced by the amount of hook-ups (and break-offs). Small yellowfin, some large yellowfin to 150 lbs. and lots of school bluefin are around. Very few reports of longfin albacore have come in. The Dumping Grounds contained a lot of white marlin. Mr. Roger fought and released five white marlin on the weekend, estimated at between 50 to 90 lbs. on his boat "Rainbow Eyes" with Capt. Gus Weiss. Inshore action on weakfish and porgies is sporadic, changing from day to day, and tide to tide. Bluefish are all over, but catches inshore are uneven. Fluke catches are good. Entries for the **Marine Basin's** 1st Annual Tuna Hunt are coming in.

Since the tournament is limited to only 55 boats, best to enter now before you get left out. First place will win $7,500. Call the **Montauk Marine Basin** for an application and further details.

Cancelled charters or a switch in plans from offshore to inshore was the name of the game over the weekend, due to the storm and sea conditions the next day.

Last Wednesday, July 24, Captain Rich Wight chunked tuna on the **Fortuna** with Joe Hodnick and his friend. The pair boated four tuna: 2 yellowfin, top weight 130 lbs., a 185 lb. bluefin and a 55 lb. longfin albacore. All these fish were fought "California" style, standing up, using short rods made with Stroker-Sabre blanks.

Captain Steve Sekora's giant tuna caught on July 21st, took 3½ hours to bring to gaff. The fish took a bait only 5 feet below the boat and was fought by Tiernan Crowley with Gabin Neff giving comfort.

Captain Bill Ricca found loads of big bluefish in the 12-13 lb. range on the tuna grounds, however, a yellowfin of 65 lbs. was put aboard the **Alyssa Ann** by Gene Ritter and his son Richie.

Ray Driscoll and his group from the NYC Police Dept, 109th Precinct, flushing, changed from weaks to fluke on Thursday until the rains came. The group, fishing with Capt. Jerry McGrath on the **Nostalgia II**, put a nice amount of fluke into the fish box calling the trip short when the storm hit Montauk.

Captain John DeMaio, fishing on the charter boat **Vivienne**, caught 60 nice weakfish on Monday, and 40 again on Wednesday, finding the fish scarce in between. However, fluking has picked up considerably. A trip on Saturday resulted in 46 nice fluke along with some bluefish caught in local Montauk waters.

Because Saturday's planned charter was called off due to weather conditions, Captain Ron Grandinette fished with his friend John on the **Julie III** on an exploratory trip. The pair loaded up with porgies, some sea bass and an eight pound striped bass, fishing both the Point and Great Eastern. On Sunday, Mr. Rinaldo returned to the Bronx laden down with porgies, 9 sea bass and an 11 pound weakfish that jumped on a porgy bait!

Captain Chuck Mallinson tried for a variety of species on the charter boat **Joy-Sea** last week. On Monday, Mike Hubiak returned home to Pennsylvania with a mako shark. Wednesday, Tim Fredericks caught an 80 pound yellowfin tuna. Thursday's trip with Robert Schilling loaded up with blues and fluke. After the storm, on Sunday, Junior Rynor and his friends fought and boated three tuna between 80 and 300 pounds in weight.

Friday's charter on the **Pronto** opted for inshore fishing at the point. Mike Foresti of Long Island with his visitors from Boston caught a couple of dozen fluke with bluefish before the storm made the area unfishable. On Saturday, Captain Mike Bentivegna, Jr. looked for tuna with Glenn Ricci of North Massapequa and finding none, set up for sharks, resulting in a couple of brown an dusky sharks. Sunday's trip with John Mahoney of A & T Tools was slow for tuna.

Indiana resident Mike Metcalf hooked up with a mako while fishing on the charter boat **My-Mate** with Captain Joe McBride on Sunday July 28th.

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SOUTH FORK

A chat with Capt. Artie Lach of the open boat **Wilhelric II** based in **Sag Harbor**, revealed that porgy fishing is red hot. Latest fishing trip reported on Sunday included some three pound scup in the catch. Catches ranged from half dozen to over 80 per angler. Those anglers fishing with 10-12 pound test line, small hooks (#6) and bringing sandworms along for bait are bagging 80-100 porgies per trip. Those who insist on using 30 pound test line, large hooks, and sticking with skimmers are low hook on the boat.

On the fluke scene, good flukers are catching 10-12 fluke per trip (a good fluker keeps his bait moving—drops back when a fish bites) most fluke have been caught on fluke strips with sandeel. Because decent catches were made last week on the east side of Gardiners Island, the Wilhelric will continue to fish that area. Pool fish has been in the five pound range.

A decent catch of porgies was brought into **Bayview Marine & Tackle** in **Sag Harbor** on Saturday. Walter Farell and Moses Reid fished at Cedar Point for 50 porgies, top weight 1½ pounds with some blowfish. The pair remarked on a few short bass in the catch which were released. Reports have come in of incresed amounts of bluefish in Plum Gut over the weekend, as well as steady fluking at the Ruins at Gardiner's Island and the channel at Napeague. Happily, snappers are more numerous and growing larger at local docks, says Chris Salb.

Thom Speckenbach at **Speck's Bait and Tackle** in **Southampton** heard of three summer weakfish caught in Cold Springs Pond in Peconic Bay over the weekend. Otherwise, the area is slow. Triggerfish, to almost three pounds, are now at the Shinnecock jetties, along with blackfish and sea bass. Fluking was pretty good in the bay at the East Channel this past weekend. Gardiner's Island was fair, with some reports from the Ruins, Southside and Eastern Plains Point by those in search of porgies and fluke. Bluefishing around Gardiner's is slow. Offshore a few tuna were caught including a yellowfin by Bruce Scarlet

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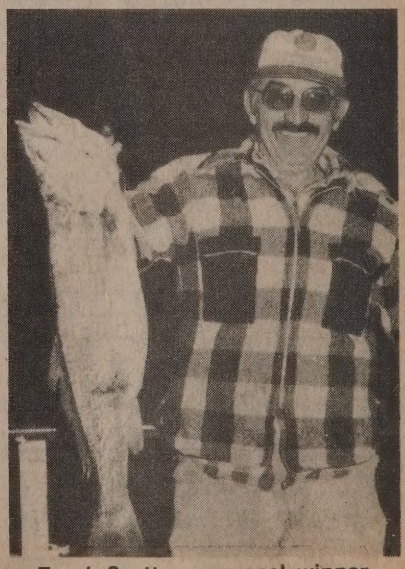
Ron Woodward, who keeps his boat "Gos Hawk" at **Sherry & Joe Corr's Best Boatworks** in **Southampton**, fished about seven miles from Shinnecock Inlet for blues with his wife, Sue, Sherri Corr, and Ruth McLoone. The group was 'attacked' by blues, ending the trip when they ran out of bait. John Edden, fishing on the family boat, 'Irish Mist' returned to the marina with nine nice fluke on Friday, all in the 16-17 inch range. Bait was squid strip with sandeel.

Capt. Fred noticed schools of school size bluefin tuna in 85 to 100 feet of water off Shinnecock Inlet on Thursday when he was returning from a shark trip with Nevin Hebner of Farmingdale with a mako of 246½ pounds caught on the **Sea Mist**.

Rosemary Mangarillo said that fishing was a little slow probably because of the storm, however, she did see a blue marlin hanging at a local dock. Offshore, word has come into **Corr's Mariner's Cove** in **Hampton Bays** of skipjack tuna spotted, as well as lots of bluefish around. Fluke remain in the bay, however, best spots to try are those free of algae, near the inlet is best at incoming tide.

South Shore REPORT
with Fred Golofaro

Fluke fishing remained the highlight of the south shore fishing picture this week. Fluking in both bays and inlets remains very good



Frank Scott was a pool winner aboard the Sag Harbor based "Wilhelric," with this 11½ lb. tiderunner weak.

but tide continues to be a critical factor in both places. The remnants of Hurricane Bob unsettled the bluefishing for a day or two but it had bounced back as of Sunday night. Offshore fishing suffered as well, but a fair number of tuna were taken on Sunday. Snappers and crabs are both solidly settled in at most local canals and docks.

MORICHES BAY & INLET

Capt. Ron Schleuter of the **Moriches** based **Alma Fleet** reported good fluking during the week and a slow pick on Friday and Saturday. Sunday produced good action early and late in the day as they were able to catch the last of the flood in the morning and the first of the flood in the afternoon. Incoming tide is critical to the fishing according to Ron. This week, good morning tides will predominate.

A report from Gary Grunseich at **Silly Lily Fishing Station** in **East Moriches** confirmed Ron's report concerning the need for incoming water on the fluke. He reported good fluking in the early AM between buoys 36 and 39 and down into Hart Cove. Weekend catches were off for most rentals, simply because they missed the early morning tide. Early in the week most boats returned with 10 to 30 keepers apiece. On Wednesday, Andy Stralkus single handedly put away 28 nice fluke to 3½ pounds at Buoy 29A. As an alternative to fluking when the tides are not right, some anglers have been turning their sights to winter flatties. On Saturday, Walter Kotnick and Christine Arcuri tallied 50 flatties from ¾ to 2¼ pounds fishing south of buoy 36. The hole at Buoy 38 has also produced some fine flounder scores. If blue claw crabs are your cup of tea, there are plenty of them right out in front of the station. Matt and Charlie Viol used bunker on Sunday to take 72 big crabs.

The Moriches Tuna/Billfish Tournament sponsored by the Moriches Anglers Club and originally scheduled for Saturday was held instead on Sunday due to poor sea and inlet conditions on Saturday. Winner of the affair was Paul Trovitch with a yellowfin tuna taken aboard Consultation. Both second and third place tuna were taken aboard the Razzle Dazzle skippered by Nick Castoro of Cerullo Bros. Fishing Station fame. In both cases, yellowfins took the prize.

GREAT SOUTH BAY/ FIRE ISLAND INLET

From **J & J Tackle** in **Patchogue**, Paul Graniello spoke again of good fluking in both Moriches and Fire

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Five-year-old Chris Grunseich and four-year-old Paul Golofaro with some nice fluke they caught north of buoy 39 in Moriches Bay. The two young anglers fished with their dads out of Silly Lily Fishing Station in East Moriches.

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7 A.M. - ¾ DAY
2 P.M. - ½ DAY
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Capt. George & Gordon Roman
SNACK BAR • CLEAN REST ROOMS
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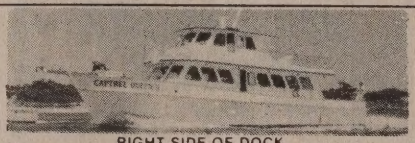

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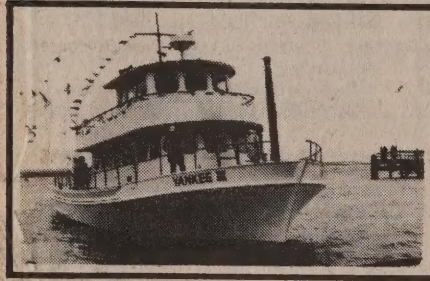

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Island Inlets. George Dietz of the Patchogue Fishing Club teamed with J D May earlier in the week to take 20 fluke in Moriches. The biggest, boated by George, tipped the scale at 6½ pounds. Paul had good reports of fast fluking at F.I. Inlet on Sunday morning's last part of the incoming. Blues seemed to settle down again after a couple of off days due to the storm. The fish were reported found over a wide expanse of ocean on Sunday. Loads of snappers around local canals and crabs holding their own in the area.

Al Colban of **J & R Sports Center** in **Oakdale** heard reports of some action with yellowfin tuna northeast of the Texas Tower on Sunday. A fair number of sharks taken on the weekend with 130-150' depths apparently most productive. Most boatmen who rode offshore reported

Charles Mehes and Richard Koppinger Sr. and Jr. with 27 fluke taken east of the Coast Guard Station in Moriches Bay. The trio did their fishing out of Seatuck Cove Fishing Station in Eastport.

passing acres of bluefish anywhere from 110 out to 190 feet of water. Most who caught them reported fish in the 8 to 16 pound range. Very good fluking continues at the Inlet, particularly along the the East Bar and off of Democrat Point. Most of the fish being taken are keepers. Al spoke of a few kingfish now being taken in the bay and he also had one customer report taking 15 small summer run weaks up to 3 pounds at buoys 15 and 30 early Sunday morning. He used a Pee-Wee Jig tipped with squid and worms. Some nice big blue claws coming from the Connetquot.

Over at **Peppy's Tackle Shop** in **East Islip**, Lisa Cioffi reported good fluking from the Lighthouse to the Inlet. Best scores are being made on the last of the flood and the top of the outgoing. Plenty of bluefish outside the inlet particularly in 80-90' of water

and snappers and crabs solid at local docks.

From **Smokey's Tackle Shop** in **Bay Shore** Carl Miller reported good fluking from the Light to the Inlet. Some small porgies now at West Island and good snapper fishing and crabbing at the docks. Some good bluefish scores made by trollers south of the Lighthouse on umbrella rigs earlier in the week. A generally quiet week offshore. The passing of Hurricane Bob did nothing to help matters any.

Capt. Neil Delanoy of the **Bay Shore** open boat **Casey Lee** reported great fluking on the last of the flood and the first of the Ebb from West Channel to the Lighthouse. Neil reported doing a big job on the summer flatties on both Saturday's and Sunday's PM trips. On Thursday, Chet Levindowski took over first place in the boat's Free Fishing For Life contest with a 5.7 pound summer flattie.

Speaking from his **Captree Bait Shop**, Noel Kappauf reported that the fine fluking being enjoyed by Captree's open and charter boat fleet has trickled over to the piers. Some casters have managed a fairly steady pick of summer flatties from the Fisherman's Wharf. Also some being taken at Robert Moses. Snappers are on the small side but keeping everyone happy at Captree and Jones Beach. Winter flounder remain the favorite flatfish at Jones Beach piers. The key to the boat fluke fishing is the last half of the flood and the first part of the outgoing from the Lighthouse to the Inlet.

Capt. George Tweedy of the **Captree** open boat **Capt. Scotty 3** reported bluefishing good most days and nights with an occasional off day. Most fish this week range between 2 and 9 pounds. Diamond jigs continue to be the ticket in the daytime while bait and chum does the job at night. The boat's special bluefish pool is now up to $1200 and counting.

Capt. Gordon Roman of the open boat **Captree Queen II** reported excellent fluking on morning and PM trips right through the weekend. Some of the better individual catches range between 8 and 15 keepers. Gordon has been fishing the inlet area as well as the wreck buoy to the bridge. The flood tide and the first part of the Ebb has been producing most of the action. Gordon said that most of the fish are keepers and there is a good mix of 2 pound class fluke making up the catches. As for the night bluefish action, Friday was a washout due to the storm while Saturday's poor fishing was attributed to the effects of the storm. There were reports of good fishing again on Sunday however.

Capt. Charlie Kennedy of the **Captree** open boat **Capt. Joseph II** spoke of good to excellent fluking all week long from the Lighthouse to the Inlet. Charlie noted that a large body of fish are settled into the area and the best of the action takes place on the last of the flood and the beginning of the ebb. Night bluefishing has rebounded

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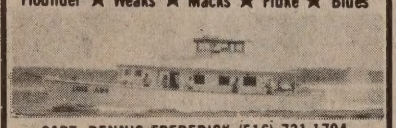
Flounder ★ Weaks ★ Macks ★ Fluke ★ Blues



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LARGE SUNDECK • SNACK BAR
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FLUKE 2 TRIPS DAILY 8 A.M. & 1 P.M.

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FULL DAY FLUKE 7 A.M.

NITE BLUES 7 P.M.

RESERVATIONS ACCEPTED

BLUES 7 PM EVERY NIGHT

1/2 DAY **JIB VI** FLUKE

8 A.M. - 12 P.M.

1 P.M. - 5 P.M.

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SHARK • TUNA • MARLIN 6 pass. limit

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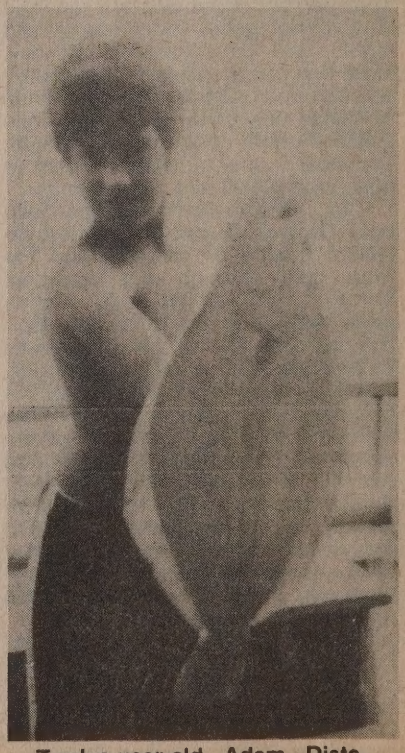
since the passing of the remnants of Hurricane Bob. The boat was unable to sail on Friday, had poor fishing on Saturday but on Sunday 20 fares accounted for over 300 blues up to 8 pounds. Among the better scores were Joe Karch of Brentwood with 36, Steve Sokol of Hicksville with 25 and George Leggio of Bay Shore with 22.

Tom Healy of **Augie's Tackle Shop** in **Babylon** filled us in on the results of Babylon Tuna Club's Invitational Tuna and Marlin Tournament held over the weekend. In the overnight category, the first place bigeye, a fish of 238 pounds was taken aboard Capt. Joe Masone's Debra. Second place was nailed down aboard Richie Koch's Libra. In the marlin category, Capt. Blair Mathias saw a 375 pound blue marlin put aboard his Post Time. Steve Golder's Obsession had a 70 pound white marlin to take that category. In the day division, first place tuna was taken by a 160 pound bigeye caught aboard Phil Fracalavieri's Happy Hooker. First place shark was a 318 pound tiger taken aboard the Small Fry, second place went to Happy Hooker for a 150 pound tiger. First place bluefish went to a 17 pounder taken aboard the Won Son. Quite a few yellowfin tuna and bigeyes were taken on Sunday. Among the betters scores in the Tourney was Dick Orlandi's Three Sons which returned to the dock with 6 bigeyes and a pair of yellowfins totaling over 1000 pounds. All of the fish entered in the Tourney were auctioned off at the dock with thousands



Twelve-year-old Adam Distefano decked this fine fluke during a recent trip aboard the open boat, "Miss Babylon."

High Tide Tables

How to use tide tables: To compute the high tide for the area you wish to fish, simply find the closest area on the conversion table. Add or subtract the hours and minutes as indicated from that area station above. Example: Shinnecock Inlet . . . −0 50 is listed under "On SANDY HOOK." −0 50 means you subtract 50 minutes from the times given for the SANDY HOOK STATION for the day you are going fishing. This is the approximate time for the high tide in the area. For low tide, add 6½ hours to this figure.

DAY	SANDY HOOK AM	SANDY HOOK PM	BREAKWATER HARBOR AM	BREAKWATER HARBOR PM	NEW YORK AM	NEW YORK PM	NEW LONDON AM	NEW LONDON PM	WILLETS POINT AM	WILLETS POINT PM	BRIDGEPORT AM	BRIDGEPORT PM	NEWPORT AM	NEWPORT PM	DATE
THURS.	9:00	9:15	9:50	10:10	9:40	9:55	10:30	10:45	12:25	1:00	—	12:25	8:45	9:05	8/1
FRI.	9:40	9:55	10:30	10:50	10:25	10:40	11:15	11:30	1:10	1:40	12:40	1:10	9:30	9:50	8/2
SAT.	10:25	10:40	11:15	11:30	11:15	11:20	—	12:00	1:55	2:20	1:25	1:50	10:15	10:35	8/3
SUN.	11:10	11:20	11:55	—	—	12:00	12:15	12:45	2:35	2:55	2:10	2:35	11:00	11:15	8/4
MON.	11:50	—	12:10	12:35	12:05	12:45	12:55	1:30	3:10	3:30	2:50	3:15	11:45	—	8/5
TUES.	12:05	12:30	12:55	1:20	12:50	1:25	1:45	2:20	3:45	4:05	3:35	4:00	12:00	12:30	8/6
WED.	12:45	1:15	1:35	2:05	1:30	2:05	2:25	3:05	4:25	4:40	4:20	4:45	12:45	1:15	8/7
THURS.	1:30	1:55	2:20	2:55	2:10	2:50	3:25	4:00	5:10	5:25	5:10	5:35	1:30	2:10	8/8

On Sandy Hook

STATEN ISLAND	+0 27
ATLANTIC HIGHLANDS	−0 01
Red Bank, Navesink River	+1 48
Long Branch	−0 34
SHARK RIVER INLET	−0 18
Shark River Basin	+0 27
MANASQUAN INLET	−0 12
Seaside Park	−0 33
Mantoloking bridge	+5 34
TOMS RIVER	+4 37
Waretown	+2 33
BARNEGAT LIGHT	−0 20
Manahawkin Bridge	+2 33
Beach Haven	+1 47
LITTLE EGG INLET	−0 01
Seven Islands	+0 12
Graveling Point	+1 05
Mullica River	+1 55
Grassy Bay	+1 08
ABSECON INLET	+0 14
Atlantic City Pier	−0 26
Great Egg Harbor Inlet	+0 12
GREAT EGG HARBOR	+0 44
CORSON INLET	+0 09
TOWNSENDS INLET	+0 06
HEREFORD INLET	+0 02
Grassy Sound Bridge	+0 45
Cape May Harbor	−0 02
Rehobeth Beach	−0 07
INDIAN RIVER INLET	+0 41
SHINNECOCK INLET	−0 50
Shinnecock Bay	+1 25
East Quogue	+2 45
Shinnecock Canal	+1 18
Indian Reservation	+3 05
MORICHES INLET	−0 56
Smith's Point	+3 28
Hart's Cove	+1 30
Pontunk Point	+3 35
Mastic Beach	+3 28
FIRE ISLAND INLET	−0 38
Democrat Point	−0 38
Coast Guard Station	−0 19
Fire Island Light	+0 47
GREAT SOUTH BAY	
Sayville (Brown Creek)	+3 39
Heckscher State Park	+3 20
Bay Shore	+2 23
Babylon	+2 12
Amityville	+2 21
JONES INLET	−0 19
Zachs Bay	+1 25
Seaford Harbor	+2 05
Freeport Creek	+0 34
E. ROCKAWAY INLET	−0 06
Long Beach Bridge	+0 19
ROCKAWAY INLET	0 00
Beach Channel Bridge	+0 38
J.F.K. Airport	+0 26

On Bridgeport

Lloyd Point	+0 08
Cold Spring Harbor	+0 08
Bayville Bridge	+0 13
Eatons Neck Point	+0 03
Northport Bay	+0 03
Norwalk Islands	+0 10
Smithtown Bay	+0 08
Cranes Neck Point	+0 05
Port Jefferson Hbr. entrance	+0 03
New Haven Harbor	+0 08
Mount Sinai Harbor	+0 05
Herod Point	−0 07
Mattituck Inlet	+0 05
Horton Point	−0 20
Truman Beach	−0 42
Falkner Island	−0 13
Sachem Head	−0 10
Branford Harbor	−0 07
New Haven Harbor entrance	−0 08
Milford Harbor	−0 07
Stratford, Housatonic River	+0 27
Shelton, Housatonic River	+1 36
Black Rock Harbor entrance	−0 03
Saugatuck River entrance	−0 01
South Norwalk	+0 10
Greens Ledge	−0 01
Stamford	+0 04
Cos Cob Harbor	+0 06
Greenwich	+0 02

On New London

Orient	+0 36
Little Gull Is. (Race)	+0 12
Greenport	+1 04
Southold	+1 43
New Suffolk	+2 26
South Jamesport	+2 32
Shinnecock Canal	+2 33
Noyack Bay	+2 05
Sag Harbor	+0 59
Three Mi. Hbr., Gardiners Bay	+0 21
Promised Land, Napeague Bay	−0 14
Montauk Inlet	−0 25
Montauk Point, north side	−1 13
Niantic	+1 20
Stonington, Fishers Is. Sound	−0 33
Noank, Mystic River ent.	−0 23
THAMES RIVER	
Smith Cove entrance	−0 01
Norwich	+0 12
CONNECTICUT RIVER	
Saybrook Jetty	+1 10
Lyme, highway bridge	+1 24
Essex	+1 38
East Haddam	+2 41
Higganum Creek	+2 54

On Willets Point

Little Neck Bay	−0 10
Execution Light	0 06
Manhasset Bay	−0 01
Hempstead Harbor	−0 11
City Island	−0 03
Rye Beach	−0 28
Port Chester	−0 09
Mamaroneck	−0 08
New Rochelle	−0 24
Davids Island	−0 02

On Breakwater Harbor

CAPE MAY POINT	−0 10
Miami Beach	+0 17
East Pt., Maurice River Cove	+0 53
Egg Island Point	+0 33
Cape Henlopen	−0 05
ROOSEVELT INLET	+0 09
Mispillion River entrance	+0 33

On New York

Jersey City	+0 07
George Washington Bridge	+0 46
Spuyten Duyvil, W/RR bridge	+0 58
Ossining	+1 53
Peekskill	+2 24
West Point	+3 16
Newburgh	+3 42

On Newport

Sakonnet	−1 10
Tiverton (between bridges)	+0 21
Beavertail Point	−0 02
Prudence Is., Sandy Point	+1 10
Bristol	+1 10
Warren	+0 21
Nayatt Point	+0 12
Pawtucket, Seekonk River	+0 21
East Greenwich	+0 16
Wickford	+0 12
Narragansett Pier	−0 08
Point Judith Hbr. of Refuge	−0 07
BLOCK ISLAND	
Great Salt Pond	+0 05
Block Island (Old Harbor)	−0 14
Watch Hill Point	+0 44

Sunrise/Sunset

DAY / DATE:	RISE:	SET:
THU. 8/1	5:53	8:18
FRI. 8/2	5:54	8:17
SAT. 8/3	5:55	8:16
SUN. 8/4	5:56	8:15
MON. 8/5	5:57	8:14
TUE. 8/6	5:58	8:13
WED. 8/7	5:59	8:12

Moonrise/Moonset

DAY / DATE:	RISE:	SET:
THU. 8/1	9:11PM	6:17AM
FRI. 8/2	9:38PM	7:26AM
SAT. 8/3	10:02PM	8:32AM
SUN. 8/4	10:23PM	9:36AM
MON. 8/5	10:43PM	10:37AM
TUE. 8/6	11:04PM	11:38AM
WED. 8/7	11:26PM	12:38AM

Moon Phases

NEW	1st Qtr.	FULL	Last Qtr.
7/17	7/24	7/31	8/8

The Original Knight SOLUNAR TABLES

The schedule of solunar periods below will help plan your day so that you will be fishing good areas during the time when the fish should be most active. The tables are not a guarantee you will catch fish, however.

The major periods begin at the time shown and last for 1½ to 2 hours thereafter, and are in the bold typeface. The minor periods are shorter in duration and the lighter typeface.

	AM		PM	
	Minor	Major	Minor	Major
Thurs.	6:00	—	6:25	12:15
Fri.	7:00	12:45	7:15	1:10
Sat.	7:50	1:40	8:15	2:00
Sun.	8:35	2:25	9:00	2:45
Mon.	9:20	3:10	9:45	3:30
Tues.	10:05	3:55	10:30	4:15
Wed.	10:50	4:40	11:15	5:00
Thurs.	11:30	5:20	11:55	5:40

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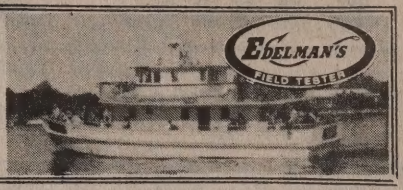

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of dollars made from the sale of the fish donated to charity. In the club standings, Babylon Tuna Club finished first in the daily division and second in the overnight category. Squaw Island nailed down second place daily while Freeport came out on top in the overnight division.

As for the local fishing news, fluking has been generally terrific with most boats having no trouble racking up healthy scores of keepers. Fishing is being done from West Channel to the Inlet but incoming tide is a necessary requirement. Capt. Fred on the **Waterwitch** found 40 nice keepers for a party headed by Mr. Pepitone on Wednesday. They used strictly spearing for bait. Just how good the fishing can be was demonstrated by a catch made a week ago but impressive enough to be worth reporting. Rick Sullivan and his crew of five aboard the Mable M totaled 120 keepers in one session of fishing last Sunday at the Inlet. A good concentration of bluefish located in the vicinity of the NA buoy and both snappers and crabs providing very good action at the docks.

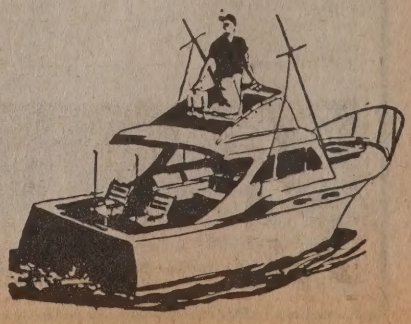
Capt. Ralph Green of the open boat **Miss Babylon** reported excellent fluking from the Lighthouse to the Inlet on the last half of the flood tide. Daily average has been 5-6 per man with some fares doing much better. Pool fish is usually in the 4 pound class.

Mike Andreani of **Lindenhurst Bait and Tackle** reported an excellent week on fluke at the Robert Moses Bridge and on out to the Bell Buoy. Lots of reports of individual catches of 15 to 20 keeper fluke taken aboard private boats. The private boat 'Five Of Us' checked in with 2 dozen fish which averaged nearly 18 inches on Saturday. They fished near the Coast Guard Station with killie and squid combos. Small blues are in and out at the inlet on 007s and small tins. A few school bass being plugged on poppers in the State Channel near the Measured Mile. Snapper fishing and crabbing remains very good at the local docks. Offshore, Tom Boniberger caught and released an estimated 500-600 pound dusky shark. He and his crew also had a load of big blues. Fishing was done south of the Virginia in 170' of water.

Over at **Z Crab Tackle**, in **Copiague**, Ralph Angelillo spoke of some nice weaks still being taken along South Beach. On Sunday, Dom Gaudioso used a sandworm to take a 13¼ pound tiderunner. Also on Sunday, young Anthony Perrone and his sister Theresa caught their first weaks while fishing with Ralph. They used red spring serpent plastic worms to take weaks of 6 and 4 pounds. On Wednesday, Glen Rankin scored with 6 weaks up to 12 pounds plus along South Beach using jellyworms. Another boat managed 5. Action has been on the flood tide and fluke are mixed with the weaks. Fred Haggermeyer had a load of 15 to 18 pound blues in 120' of water on Sunday. He also had a number of blue and brown sharks. On Saturday, Billy Biscardi counted 4 blue sharks, 3 browns and a load of bluefish among his catch made in 150' of water. He also reported dropping an nice mako. Ralph labelled the snapper fishing as pretty good now and crabbing a little on the spotty side this week.

Bob Vitale of **Bob's Bait and Tackle** in **Amity Harbor** spoke of excellent fluking from the lighthouse to the inlet on the flood tide. George Brennan put 20 keepers aboard his 'Flipper' at the Lighthouse. John Bulosi also had a nice mess of summer flatties topped off by a 4½ pounder. Buzzy Boselli used live bunker to take 2 weaks in the 10 to 12 pound class near the Wantagh Bridges Saturday night. Small blues and weaks are being taken on spearing in the bay opposite Amityville Town Beach. Good crabbing and snapper fishing from all the local docks.

Frank Pristera speaking from **Edelman's** in **Farmingdale** reported a load of 5-8 pound blues and a 100 pound brown shark for Angelo Dituro and Rich Molnar. The pair fished southeast of FI Inlet in 140' of water on Sunday. Good fluking in Fire Island Inlet on the last of the flood and the east side of Fox Creek has also been producing some nice summer flatties. Crabbing excellent at many of the docks in the Lindenhurst to Amityville area and also south of the center span of the Captree Bridge.



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West End REPORT
with Stu Miller

We've just passed through a rather unusual fishing week with fluke starting to bounce back on some days and not bounce back on others and on the bluefishing scene some days fair to excellent and some days and nights taking a slide. The flounder catches while consisting of slightly smaller fish have been comprised of fat flatties but only at certain stages of the tide (forget about the ebb). Offshore has been spotty, and so she goes.

WEST END BAYS/ JONE'S INLET

We hear from the Seaford based open boat **Chinco III** of the flounder fishing which has been up and down this week and on the better full day trips, high hooks have been going into the 40s. Flood tide has been best. Brian says the fluking is picking up in his area and in just a few drifts this past week has put together some decent fluke catches, mostly nice sized fish.

A call from **Pop's Fishing Station** told of a continued upswing in sthe fluking. The Mainaird party had 12 keepers. Best catches have been on the ebb on the east side of the Wantagh bridges and it's best on incoming on the west side of the bridges. The Walders group had a mixed bag of fluke, flounder and ling while Kevin O'Day and Ed Markowski hoisted an 8 lb. weak on the flats using squid on a fluke rig. All the rentals have been getting at least a few fluke per trip. Flounder still an okay item at the holes, at the brides and Massapequa cove with bay blues mixed in. Some BCCs up to 24 per boa have been taken.

A call from **Captain Eddie's Fishing Station** also spoke of an upswing in the fluking to the tune of 8 to 21 per rental boat. Best areas have been 4 Corners and Massapequa Cove on the flood. Fat flatties from 3/4 to 1 lb. being taken at Black Banks and Haunts Creek. Snappers and Bccs in Seaford Creek.

From **Wanser's Tackle**, Lon tells of some flounder still b eing caught in the deeps, Wantagh, Black Banks, Zachs Bay, Short Beach CG and at the Big M. Fluking has picked up some, with bulkhead drain being a hotspot, Joe Messino of Massapequa scoring with 18 keeper fluke there on spearing and sand eels. Goose Creek has also

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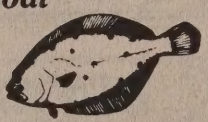

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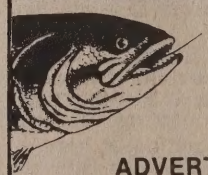

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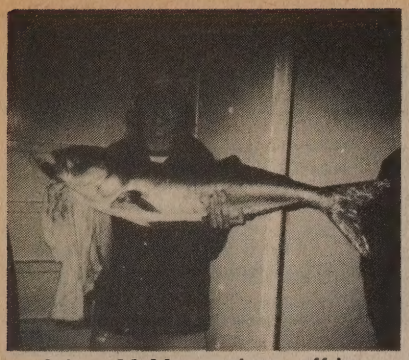
been good. Bluefish galore outside for trollers, jiggers and chummers. Weak fish being caught at the bridges at night on sand worms, fished 3 feet off the bottom into the bridges. Stripers still being caught by the night hawks drifting clam chum into the bridges and snappers small but plentiful along with a starting of bccs in the back bays.

The word from Mike at **Causeway Tackle** in Wantagh is of improved fluking except for Friday. Customers have had catches of up to 30 keepers a boat this week, mostly keepers. Producing well has been the east side of Jones from the east bar to the CG station. Along with Broad and Haunts Creeks. Incoming has been best using spearing. Action has also been good in the state channel at Amityville cut for quality but not quantity on live killies. Flounder showed fair off LI sea clam and at buoys 14 and 16 in Long Creek, fish mixed sizes. Loads of crabs. The flounder still want their clam and worm diet. Snapper action has been very good at Wantagh park, fish to 6 inches on sand eels and spearing. Blue claws are there also for those using traps and some weaks being taken at the bridges on worms.

Over in Merrick **Garon's Tackle** is strongly impressed by the bluefishing anywhere from 3 to 23 miles off the beach with the fish getting larger the further out you go. Flounder at the CG station has been excellent said Gary also just east of the 3rd Wantagh has been dynamite, all around the high. Russ Morse bagged an 8 lb. weak on a sand worm fishing at night with sand worms at the 2nd Wantagh. Rich Baltzer had a combination of 8 brown, dusky and blue sharks from 50 to 200 lbs. fishing 150 degrees and 16 miles out of Jones. Blue claws starting in Hudson Canal while fluking remains hot and cold.

Moving on to Freeport, Captain Richie's **Starstream II** enjoyed fair to



Arleen McManus shows off her first bluefish, an 18 lb. pool winner, caught aboard the Sheepshead Bay based open boat "Helen H."

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good bluefishing most of the week with a couple of off days. Fish have generally been running 2-4 lbs. and pools 5-8 lbs. during the day, all on diamonds. A few bonito have been mixed in with action at 3 Sisters. Night trips have been good with the exception of Thursay and Saturday nights with larger fish being taken, pools in the 10 lb. range.

From the **Freeport Boatmens Association** Bob tells of fluking picking up on both AM and PM trips aboard the **Super Spray II** with a high keeper ratio. The Association's boats doing bluefishing have been scoring pretty consistently anywhere from Cholera to the 3 Sisters both day and night. Some offshore yellowfin, bigeye and longfin albacore have taken this week and some white marlin have made their presence known, along with some blue and dusky sharks.

We learn from **Lou's Fishing Station** that a leap job was had on blues Thursday by nearly every boat out after them and that Saturday was very nearly a repeat of this at Cholera and the Sisters. Buffalo Bob fishing aboard John Kalman's Snapshot hung a 135 lb. yellowfin tuna in the Texas Tower area, while another angler slugged it out with a 38 lb. pollock in the same location.

We hear from the charter boat **Captain Gary** of Monday's trip for a group of Manhattan South detectives having some very good fluking. Harry Bond was pool winner with a 3¼ lber. and also high hook with 10 keepers. Tuesday was a tough pick on blues for the Lion's Club and the same action on Wednesday for the James Lanza group. The fluking Saturday was for NY Telephone with high hook being Don Martinez with 12 keepers and a 3½ lber taking the pool for Rich Gazzino. It was fluke Sunday for the Ed Eikis group in Jones Inlet with a good catch. Pool honors went to Ann Harris with a 3¾ lber. while high hook was Buzzer Howley with 12 keepers.

A call from the **Capt. Lou Fleet** told of fluking picking up aboard the half day boat **CL V** with the big fish of the week a 5 lber. taken on sand eel-killie combo. On the full day boat **CL III** the full day flounder action was good all week mainly on the flood tide. High hook of the week came on Tuesday with 60 fish for Pat Perruli. Flatties have been up to 2½ lbs. The late afternoon trip enjoyed good tides this week too, and on Saturday Roland Guintiny of Port Washington put away 48. Paul Wetterau was happy with 38 while his 5 yr old daughter Kimberly had 16.

Aboard the charter boat **Lady J III** it was fluke on Monday for the Wm. Mack group from Carle Place, fluke again Wesneday for a group from Oceanside Community Activities. Saturdays trip was bluefish for the Arldee Co., Bethpage. It was blues again Sunday for the Jones Lang and Wooton group, which jigged 2-4 lbers south of Jones. All of the week's fluke trip had been a fair pick on sand eels and squid.

In nearby Pt. Lookout, aboard the **Miss Point Lookout** this week the skipper noticed quite an increase in the fluke activity with a new body of fish apparently moving into the inlet. Thursday's PM trip was very good with Frank Clarkco bagging a 4 lb. pool fish. Twelve fish went over 3 lbs. Saturday's AM trip had regular Artie with 7 keepers, while on Sunday's AM trip Annette Lippon bagged a 4 lber. Flood has been best with hot areas being the inlet, Garretts Lead, Scow and Reynolds. Captain Ron said the night blues have been mostly excelent with roughly 400 fish taken Thursday night. A regular by the name of Honi hoisted a 15 lb. blue.

Captain Dennis of the charter boat **Marie III** spoke of Monday and Tuesday's flounder fishing as very good off Short Beach CG and at the Big M. High hook Monday was George Gaddis with 48 flounder. On Tuesday's half day trip for East Meadow Recreation Center catches averaged 4-19 fish a man running 1-2 lbs. on

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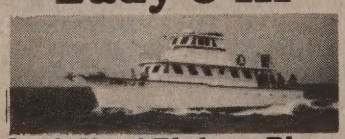

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worm and clam. Bluefish charters Wednesday through Sunday were fair to good fish wise from the entrance buoy to Cholera and 3 Sisters. On Better days catches ranged 15-20 a man on fish 2-6 lbs., jigs days, bait nights. The skipper said he still has a few open dates for August and September bluefishing.

Bluefish have been excellent all week, commented Capt. Al Lindroth of the **Captain Al**, with Thursday being the only tough day. Tuesday's catch had a lot of bonito mixed in with blues running 2-6 lbs. Saturday fish were caught from the Sisters to Cholera very nicely. While he describes Sunday's action as fair to good, considering the heavy boat traffic. Al noted that the Sisters has been very consistent all season so far. The night trips this week have been a little less consisten than the day trips.

Eileen at **Ed's Fishing Station** told of good flounder catches this week off the CG stawtion and at the Big M with quantities caught. Fish have been averaging 1 lb. and best has been all around the high. Bill Sauer of Ozone Park was happy with a 6½ lb. fluke which he took at the junction of Reynolds and Sloop on a killy-squid combo. Jones has been best this week for the fluke resurgence with some new fish moving in, 80 per cent keepers. Six year old Jay Camhi and 7 yr old Scot Klotzman of Dobbs Ferry joined forces to land a 3¾ lb. fluke Sunday on live killies. Sunday saw Thomas Monteleone with a 30 lb. yellowfin tuna bagged at the Texas Tower.

The **Commodore** out of Island Park reported a good Sunday fluking out of the channels with 2 5 lber. tied for the pool. Eileen and Mike Schultz managed 25 keepers to 3½ lbs. while regular John Trost had 9 keepers to 3 lbs. Clem said the channels and the reef look very promising for this coming week, but everything hinges on the weather.

Beckmann's Tackle in Lynbrook spoke of big blues in 20-30 feet of water off Atlantic Beach, fish up to 18 lbs. under schools of bunker. Best catches have been made with live-lined bunker snagged from these schools. Fluke has picked up in Jones inlet. Flounder fishing remains okay off Short Beach CG and Meadowbrook bridge on worms and clam while blue claws continue to build.

Word from **Long Beach Boat Rentals** is that fluking in the Long Beach area has been spotty this week, with 2/7 of the week productive. Live killies as hook bait and bunker chum worked from a pot under the boat has produced best results particularly at buoys 3 and 5 in Reynolds on the last 2 hours of incoming and the first of outgoing. Blues for trollers off the beaches and for liveliners in the bay. Also in the bay occasional large blues and weaks on live or chunk bunker. Ling and sea bass off the Rockaway Wrecks while there are tinker mackerel, small snappers and bccs in the back bays.

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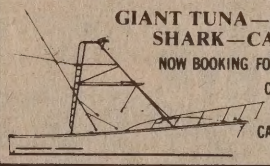
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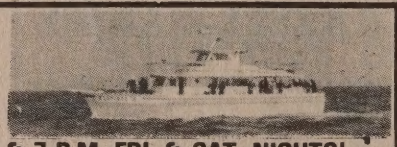

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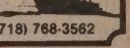

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At Atlantic Beach, Dave at **reynolds Reef Fishing Station** noted fluking picked up a bit from the Cedarhurst Yacht Club to Debs Inlet on squid killie combos, best on the ebb. Blues to 12 lbs in the buoy 4 area in 30' of water on umbrellas fished deep, best color this week blue. A 150 lb. hammerhead shark was caught Saturday by Hal Schechter who was strangely silent about where he caught it. A few sea bass on squid being taken along the beaches with fluke on sandy bottom.

NEW YORK BIGHT

From **Skippy's Tackle** we learned of a 66 lb. white marlin weighed in Sunday for Red Thompson of the East Rockaway Anglers aboard the boat Shammy fishing in 160' of water SE of Jones. A little better fluking this week in the bay off Long Beach H.S. in Reynolds. Lots of small brown and dusky shark SW of the HA and very good bccs and snappers in bay park.

To the west in Sheepshead Bay Captain Butch on the open boat **Zephyr** told of fair to good fluking this week. Saturday's action was very good in th AM until 1PM and then things slowed. Sunday was a good pick all day long with lots of fares filling up 5 gal. pails with keepers. Butch scored at Old Orchard, Sandy Hook and off Chapel Hill. One to 2 lb. cocktail blues were mixed into the catch and working best was sand eels followed by fluke belly.

We hear from Captain Tommy of the **Pilot II** of fair to good fishing this past week for the most part. Tom said the porgies are around but are spooky. Customers have been getting mixed bags of ling, sea bass, blacks and porgies. Please see ad for the boat's new evening and night schedule.

From charter boat **Avatar**, Captain Fred took a busman's holiday all by himself Sunday and putting out four rods at one his favorite honey holes bagged 50 keeper fluke by himself. Earlier in the week a charter for Don Knox from Our Children Company had 3 keeper bass in the AM on chunks, followed by 2 big weaks on chunks and a pile of fluke.

We hear from **Betty W. III** that in the recent Harbor Festival Tournament, the Betty W. III won 9 out of 10 prizes for the festival on bluefish and took the 2nd largest weakfish. Skipper Al Coley deserves congratulations. The bluefishing all this past week has been good but the fish have all been 1-2 lbs. Night trips have also been good with a few off nights due to conditions but with larger fish 2-6 lbs. All the action has been local.

Sal at **Stella Maris Tackle** spoke of good bluefishing days and nights weather permitting. Good steady fluking on the Jersey side, porgies starting along with snappers and some weakfish being taken at buoy 17 and off Coney Island.

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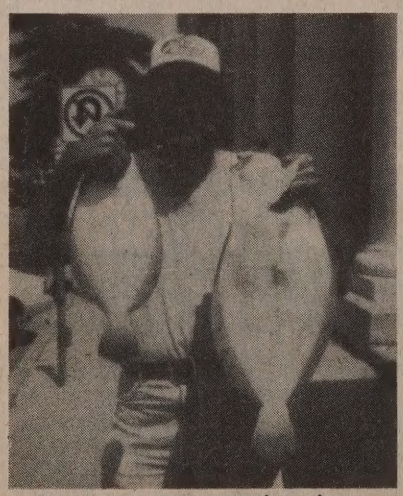
North Shore REPORT
with Marty Garrell

The best regional fluking seemed to be confined to the Sound from Eatons west, but bluefish were well represented everywhere. Porgy fishing was good in many locations.

WESTERN SOUND

John's Gun in **New Rochelle** mentioned some good bluefishing for large fish on live bunker and chunks in the area. The local Rodeo was in full swing with a 20 pound gorilla in the lead. John Palmieri organized a fluking party last week east and west of Bayville on the **Jaqueline**, and enjoyed "the best fluking ever". The party included the Scott Brunos, Tony Boneppi, and John Jr. and they accounted for 41 summer flounder from 17 to 21 inches.

John DiCuffa at **Jack's Bait** had a very good weekend to describe with local porgy fishing picking up off Sands and Prospect Point on ½ to ¾ pound fish. Flounder fishing was still active enough to get an honorable mention along with a few tautog. Bob Castagnetta weighed a 25 pound bass taken on a bunker chunk and Andy Macejko pulled blues of 15 to 16 pounds while trolling off Harts.



Pat Cummins caught these fluke to 7 lbs. off Sand City on squid and sand eel combos. Photo courtesy of Bowman's Sporting Goods in Northport.

Phil Nasi at **Glen Cove Sport** said that fluking was still very good with the best fish of the summer a 7.15 taken two weeks ago. A few in the 4-4½ pound range have been weighed as well. Ron Oldenburg registered 6 weakfish to 8 pounds.

The **Klondike VIII** had a tough weekend on bluefish with last week's storm and complications from wind and tide. Pete Pearson worked all the way up to Port Jeff and New Haven for some 30 blues on Saturday and 50 on Sunday.

The **Apache** from **New City Island** had pretty good porgy fishing in the Sunken Meadow are with an average catch of 15-20 fish per fare. Scup are in 30-40 feet of water where 3-6 ounces of lead can be used. Dom Cerbone expects to be working local waters this week.

NORTH SHORE MID-ISLAND

Bob Cedar at **Huntington Prop** told us that fluke maven Charlie Burke pulled a pair of 7-8 pound fish from area waters on live killies. Diamond Point and Sand City were good for fluking right now. Rodmaker Lou Tinto posted his career record, a 13¾

This 8½ lb. weak grabbed a Jellyworm fished by Eileen schiller off of Lloyd Neck. It was weighed at Four Wind's Tackle in Huntington.

pound doormat, at **Four Winds** on Saturday and added an 8.7 on Sunday. The giant fluke, the biggest on the North Shore this season, took a squid-tipped bucktail on a dead stick. There are a few nice porgies around Eatons and the Coast Guard Station as well as in the Northport Bay channel, but this is no real surge, according to Tom Bowman at **Bowman's**.

A few weakfish may still be found in the deep bay holes around Northport but night fishing has fallen out, and jigging for blues has hit the summer doldrums, except for a few big fish under the bunker schools in Huntington Bay, Lloyd Harbor, and Cold Spring Harbor.

Other weigh-ins at Valentine's included John Stone's 10.12 weakfish and Bill Maser's 8.14 tautog. Fluking west of Eatons makes this the best year ever with almost all fish 14 inches and over.

In Port Jeff waters, Dave Cash of the **Prowler** is "getting by" every day with a few good hours on bluefish, using AVA 27s (no tubes, rigid hooks). Wednesday and Thursday were good days on 2-3 pound fish around Buoys 9 and 11, and Saturday saw some 10-12 fish per fare come aboard. Sunday's northwest wind brought poor fishing and smaller fish to 2 pounds.

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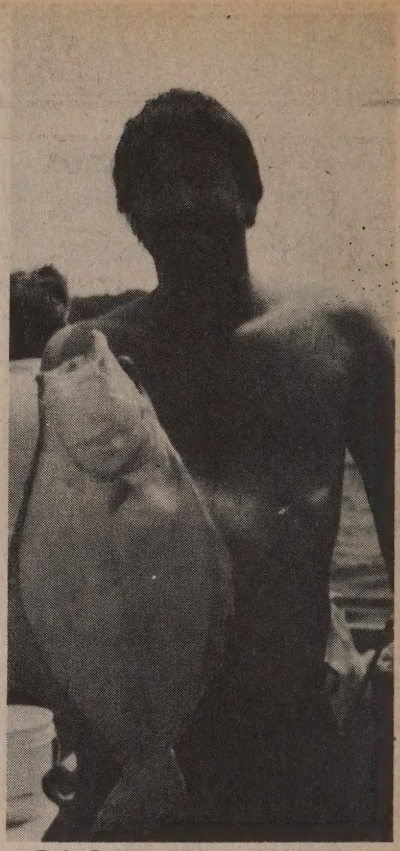

Bob Brickens decked this fine summer flattie aboard the Orient Point based open boat, "Prime Time III."

very good porgy fishing at Cranes Neck with some large fish off Whites Beach. Oldfield had mixed sizes of scup. Back trolling was producing good catches of fluke on days when wind was non-existent.

Ralph Davenport at **Ralph's** in **Mount Sinai** said that there were a lot of small porgies near the rocky beaches and that fluking was an up-and-down-affair due to dragging. Al Sturges at the **Complete Angler** told us that there were a lot of snappers in the area, too. Michael Hawley weighed a 12 pound striper and Jason Saar pulled a trophy largemouth of 22 inches from Artist Lake.

NORTH FORK

Liz Caraftis at the **Mattituck Fishing Station** told us that there were a few big scup to 2 pounds among the ¾ to 1½ pound fish in the Mattituck Inlet area. Derek Dubrova at the **Mattituck Inlet Fishing Station** saw some weakfish in the 5-7 pound range as well, and anglers are advised to fish high-hooks for these fish, although most of the catches are made on porgy rigs. Blues were present from Buoy 5 back to Hortons. Fluking is virtually dead.

John Mergerson had a catch of 58

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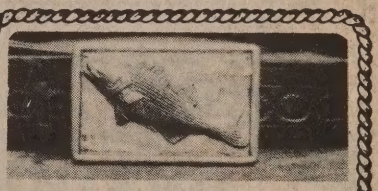
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medium porgies and 5 weakfish to 4 pounds from the South Race Buoy 26. Mergerson brought the fish into **Captain Marty's**, and Sal Loria says that the secret is chumming with skimmer clam while fishing worms and fresh clams.

Ace Cottral at the **Port of Egypt** in **Southold** saw a few porgies to one pound from Jessups and the Middle Grounds as well as from Sag Harbor. There were lots of little scup off Cedar Beach. Private boats fishing Gardiner's were bringing in anywhere from 5 to 15 summer flounder per trip if they knew what they were doing.

Art White at the **A.P. White Bait Shop** in **Greenport** said that there were now some larger snappers around, and that Plum Gut had a few nice bass in the 20s.

Anna May Rainis called to say that the Porco Rod and Gun Club had a good Sunday of fishing for porgies, flounder, blackfish, and sea bass aboard the **Blue Albatross** with Captain Bill Russo.

Porgy fishing slipped a bit on Saturday and Sunday, according to Dave Brennan of the **Peconic Star**. The scup have been increasingly difficult to catch, but changing rigs makes a big difference. One of the hottest rigs last week, a long leader with a sliding fishfinder sinker, produced a high hook of 60 when 10-15 fish per fare was the norm. Fish are mostly mediums with an occasional jumbo.

George Porter of the **Brand X** said that he had an excellent catch of large and jumbo porgies from a school of fish on Sunday fishing in about 40 feet of water. High hooks run from 30 to 50 and Porter reminds us that it's all relative. Although anglers must not expect the scup catches of boom years, it's easy enough to catch ten fish a day.

Clark Bellows of the **Prime Time III** told us that all the fluke boats had a slow week, although there was a scattering of large fish. Off Gull Island, Bellows had a 4 and a 5½ pounder on Friday in a haul of 18 fish.

Dan Buckley of the **Nancy Ann II** had a relatively good Saturday on fluke, considering the scarcity of the species. Some 12 fares had 39 keepers and 3 or 4 per day was a typical bag for experienced fluke fishermen. Dan is fishing the Sound on days when he doesn't have to fight a wind-versus-tide situation.

"Thank God for the bluefish", said Richie Jensen of the **Nancy Ann**.

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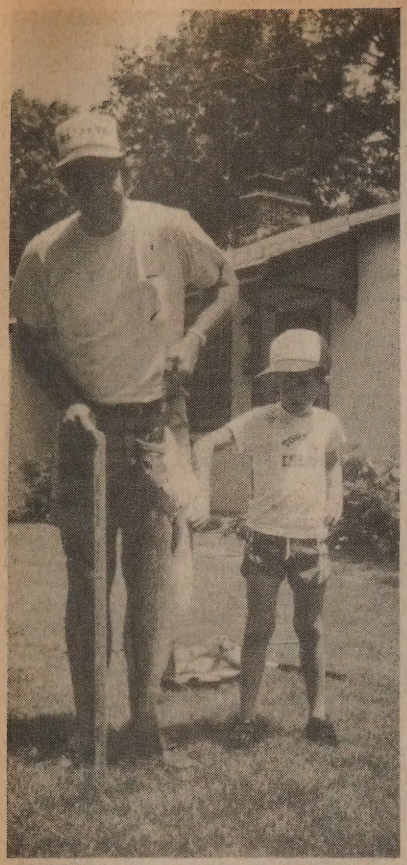
Jensen is taking over 100 blues a trip from the Race and Pigeon Rip and, now that there are a few bass around, he'll be running some night bass charters. Blues are abundant in the 3 to 8 pound range and a party of 5 on one of the **Nancy Ann II**'s evening trips Wednesday had virtually no dead time, always a fish on, on Pigeon Rip with John Sinning. Tail-less diamonds in 4-8 ounces sizes were advised in waters to 120 feet.

The best catch of bass recently was a 7 fish haul with a couple of 30s, but this was an exception.

Surf REPORT
with Fred Golofaro

Surf fishing, to the surprise of no one, continues to languish in the doldrums. Even the catch of a 51 pound striper could not compensate for this weeks steady stream of discouraging reports. Rather than

Five-year-old Jason Bereswill has good reason to be proud of his first fish ever. The fluke weighed in at a healthy 3 lbs. His dad, Paul, snapped the photo. Subscriber photo.



Andrew Erhartic admires the 12 lb. weak that his dad, Richard, caught from the surf at Jones Beach Field 6 on June 24th.

dwell on the negatives, we'll just touch on the few positive notes we were able to uncover in the course of our phoning around the Island.

At least half a dozen sources reported rumors of a couple of nice stripers taken at Cedar Beach early Sunday morning. Most reports were in the rumor category but some evidence of these fish may have surfaced as a result of a call to Noel Kappauf at **Captree Bait Station**. Noel did weigh a 21½ pound striper taken locally Sunday morning by Hal Stein. Noel also added to the report of the 52 pound striper reported here last week and taken by Mike Costello. This fish was also weighed at Captree and Mike told Noel that the fish was taken on the back side of Robert Moses.

Over at **Causeway Tackle** in **Wantagh** Mike Nicoletti reported small bass, mostly shorts being taken at West End on swimming plugs. He heard reports of a few weaks taken at Democrat on bait earlier in the week but no confirmed catches.

Stan Hentschel of **Rocky Point Fishing Stop** reported things real quiet along local beaches with a few minor exceptions. Don Meola managed four keeper schoolies in the Stony Brook area one night while Chuck Schloss nailed a couple of small weaks along with some small blues in

(Continued on page 63.)

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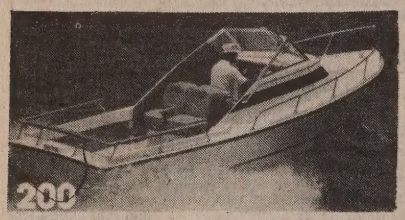

1979 SHAMROCK Cuddy 20', 225 hp V8. Keel drive; 2 radios; 2 DF. Full canvas. Must sell; buying larger boat. $9,500. 516-727-3115.

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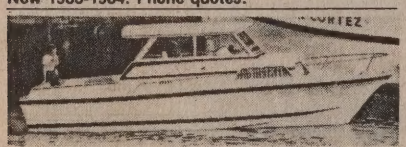

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1982 Mariner 15 hp Long shaft w/6 gal. tank. Like new cond. $950. 516-473-7391.

30' ULRICHSEN Sportfisherman, 250 hp Chrysler, FWC, Flybridge, VHF, depthfinder. In water; to go. Bklyn. 718-DE 9-3054.

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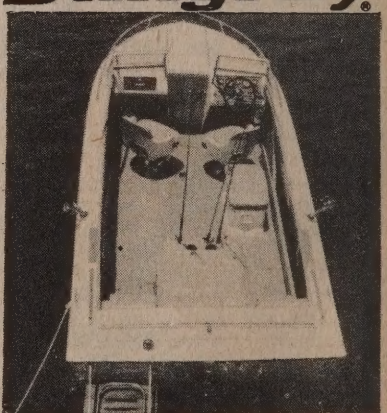

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1977 Fiberform 18' 5'', 120 hp Mercruise I/O. Good cond. In water. $3800. 718-386-4512.

TOPAZ FISHERMAN 1977. Excl. cond. 24' center console, cuddy cabin. Custom Bimini. 233 hp Merc FWC, 750 hrs. $13,500. 516-734-7052 or 212-893-0600.

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23' ROBALO center console twin 115 hp Evinrudes, T-Top, VHF, Loran C, outriggers. $11,000. After 5PM: 516-324-3451.

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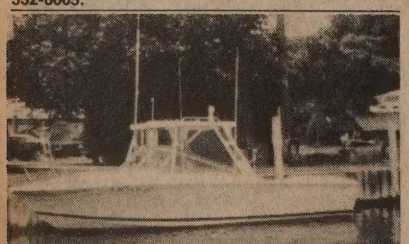

SEA BIRD 24', 225 Chrysler w/Volvo outdrive. Mint cond. Must be seen. Loran, VHF, CB, graph recorder. Epirb. Life raft, custom hardtop. Many more extras. $13,500. 516-842-2524.

22.2 AQUASPORT FFP 200 Evinrude. VHF, CB, Si-Tex recorder. Dual batt. $7500. Eves: 914-273-8394.

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1984 SEA DEVIL 20' 470 Merc. FWC, canvas, head, VHF, depth sounder, paper recorder, washdown, etc. 71 hrs. $16,500/take over payments. 281-8865.

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27' PHOENIX 1980 225 Chrysler engines. Tower. Loaded offshore fishing machine. Priced to sell. Days: 212-246-4074. Nites: 516-997-7438.

1973 MARLIN, Aluminum trailer. Full mooring cover. Excl. cond. $2500. 516-277-5185.

'69 SPORTCRAFT Custom Cuddy. Serious fishing boat. 70 hp Johnson & 15 hp Johnson Aux. Both very low hrs. Like new. Trailer; CB radio, graph recorder & many, many extras. Ready to fish. Must see. John Blasko, 516-567-3800 bet. 7:30AM & 5:30PM.

21' WINNER Viscount '73, 120 Mercruiser I/O, cuddy. New canvas; just overhauled. Asking $5788. 516-249-0107.

28' BERTRAM 1980 Sportfisherman, twin 228 hp Mercruisers, FWC, 460 hrs. Loran C, VHF, CB, white line recorder, outriggers, downriggers, live bait well, Much more. Mint cond. 718-428-9558.

1976 26' PACEMAKER, 10' beam Wahoo, 1981, 270 Crusader FWC, tower, outriggers, fighting chair, Loran, VHF, CB, SW washdown. Many extras. $19,500. After 6PM: 718-446-2255.

1966 PACEMAKER FBSF, T225, Offshore Rigged, VHF, DF, chart recorder, Loran, Halon system, stereo. Excl. cond. Yard maintained. Recent survey; insured. Bill, 516-623-8471 days.

WANTED: Aluminum Power Boat. Any condition. 17' or larger. 267-7579.

23' SEA CRAFT '77 Lobster & Sport Fishing Ctr Console, 200 hp Johnson. Loran, VHF, paper recorder. Shoreline trailer, power winch. New Hyd. Hauler used 3 mos. as lobster boat. Easily converts to sport fishing. $12,000. 100 wire traps-$2000. 427-6049.

STRIKER Canyon Runner 34', 1975, T555s. Etta Mae has all electronics & fishing equip. Days: 516-349-1700. Eves: 516-826-8370.

26' 1977 STAMAS, 1983 270 hp Crusader, FWC, 2 depth finders, VHF, CB, anchor winch. $16,990. 516-727-8386.

DUSKY 26' wide body 1983 Twin 235s. Tuna door, T-Top, encl. V-900 color, 1350 WL, Loran, digital, Dytek. Life raft, winch, full chair, tackle locker 400 gal. fuel. Bristol cond. $42,000. 203-434-8629.

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22' WINNER 1984; 115 hp O/B. Full canvas. Dockage paid. Porta-Potti, new lights. Many accessories. $3990. 516-379-1637.

27' PHOENIX 1980, twin 228 Chryslers FWC. Low hrs. Custom tower, chair, Furuno radar, ML5500 Loran, 2VHF, Lowrance recorder, sea temp. Much, much more! Like new. $49,500. Eves: 516-997-7438. Work: 212-246-4074. Wknds: 516-267-3371.

1983 Grady White 206 Islander, 2.6 ltr sea drive 20' 4''. Loaded. Lo hrs. $18,900.
1980 Grady White 204 fisherman, 20' 4'' 150 hp John., galv. trailer. Loaded. $12,950
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1968 Sea Ray 17' Refurbished. Boat only. Any motor combo-$1795
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Lots more new & used boats available. Cross over the bridge & save.

EDDIE'S MARINE SERVICE CORP., 210 Bch. 2 St., Lawrence, NY 11681; 718-327-3168.

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1974 21' BOSTON WHALER Revenge, 1983 140 hp Evinrude. CG equip. Electronics; & more. 914-698-6749.

ONLY $13,695

21' STEIGER CRAFT w/115 hp Mercury P/Trim. Commercial & pleasure models. MARINELAND: Mattituck, 516-298-4020. Long Beach, 516-889-5000.

All 1985 EVINRUDES—Sale prices w/extended warranties. MARINELAND, Long Beach, 516-889-5000.

30' COLUMBIA II 1981 Fiberglass Sportfisherman w/Flybridge. Galley; sleeps 4; GM350 200 hrs. FWC, all electronics 1985, radar, outriggers. Clean. 718-478-3542 After 5PM. $22,000.

EXECUTIVE 19', 1982 Fiberglass Bowrider, OMC 120 hp. Reclining seats, SS radio, DF, compass. Many extras. Boat in Pt. Lookout. Excl. cond. Tom: 516-432-4665.

19' BARTENDER, Mainebuilt 1983, 40 hp Mariner. Good rough water fishing boat. Asking $6500. Eves: 516-698-2326.

1984 15' 4 Winns, 35 hp Mercury. Low engine hrs. Trailer, full top. Many extras. $5500. Eves: 516-242-4811.

WELLCRAFT V20 Step-lift, cuddy cabin, 140 hp Merc. Tandem Trailer, compass, radios, DF, outriggers & more. Asking $6500. 261-3891.

SEA CRAFT 1977 23' Superfisherman, 1982 200 hp Johnson, Hydraulic steering, trim tabs. Loaded! 203-245-8343.

1977 AQUASPORT 19' 6" center console, 1978 Evinrude 140 hp. Rebuilt '83; light use since. VHF, recorder, Si-Tex 787C Loran. Much more. Excl. cond. In water; ready to fish. At Montauk. Asking $7000. 201-568-8746.

28' 1979-80 BERTRAM S/F. Mint. 680 hrs radar, VHF, Loran, White Lne recorder. Outriggers; fighting chair. Many extras. 516-725-1446.

17' 1983 SEA WAY 1984 70 hp Evinrude, center console. Rod holders. $4800. 516-727-8386.

FOR SALE: Silverton 33' 1973. Sleeps 6. Fully equip. Dual stations, twin Chrysler engines, FWC, electric anchor, alcohol stove, refrig., swim ladder, 6 life preservers, fire extinguishers, UHF ship to shore radio, depthfinder, 4 Capts. chairs. Bimini top-1-yr-old. Canvas covering-flying bridge, cockpit, outriggers. Mahogany flag pole & flag. Nautical access—3 lamps, ashtrays, curtains, wall hangings, etc. Excl. cond. Asking $20,000. After 5PM: 516-328-1496.

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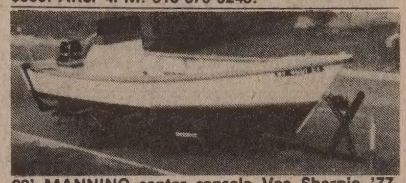

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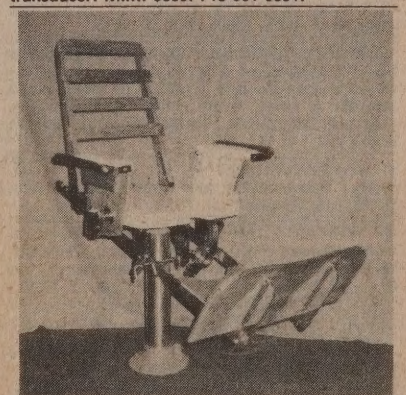

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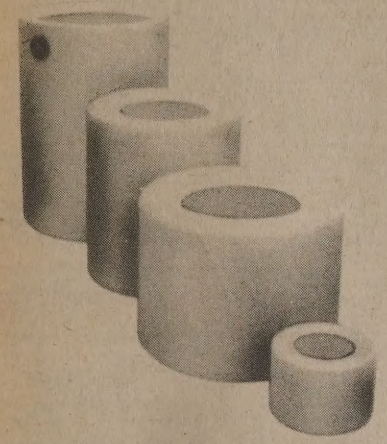

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Freshwater REPORT
with Tom Schlichter

The heavy rains from the remnants of Hurricane Bob were enough to taint the waters of most lakes and ponds late this week but even prior to the downpour, most freshwater fishermen seemed to find the action to be a little off. Bass and trout fishing seems to have suffered most. Action with carp and catfish were about the only areas where improvement was recorded.

Charlie Beckman of **Beckman's Bait and Tackle** in **Lynbrook**, reported a slow week with only a few scattered bass reported. Most of the local kids have turned to snapper fishing which has also cut down on freshwater reports.

From Mike Nicoletti of **Causeway Bait and Tackle** in **Wantagh**, we hear word that Jeff Bollbach enjoyed some fine fishing on Saturday. Working a location he would not reveal, Jeff nailed bass of 5.14 and 5.1 pounds. Northern Twin Lake has given up a lot of small bass and a few pickerel.

At **Lindenhurst Bait and Tackle**, Mike Andreani informed us that six year old Nick Lubrano used bread baits to hook and land a six pound carp in Hawley's Pond. A regular at the shop, Big "Y", took carp all week long from the same location. Some of these fish have ranged up to 20 pounds.

From **Augies Bait and Tackle** in **Babylon**, Tom tells us that there are plenty of nice carp available in Carll's River. Not much going on with bass and trout but one unknown angler did weigh in a 3.5 pound largemouth.

Over on Lake Ronkonkoma, Fred Kruse of **Pine Grove Outfitters** caught and released a few bass in the 11-15 inch range. Bass fishing in general has been slow but there are plenty of catfish on the bottom for those willing to try.

From his office at Connetquot River State Park, Gil Bergen reports that this week's rains discolored the water, making for only a fair week. Anglers still took their share of rainbows, brookies, and browns, but the numbers were down from previous weeks.

At Caleb Smith State Park in Smithtown, Mike Venuti claimed that it wasn't so much the rain as it was the high temperatures that slowed the fishing on the Nissequogue River. Fishing was slow all week long.

At **J & R Sport Shop** in **Oakdale**, Bob Cifarelli weighed in a 3 pound bass taken from Hewlett Lake. Over at Connetquot River State Park, Jimmy DeLosa used spruce flies to nail a 20", 3 pound rainbow and several smaller brookies.

Paul Graniello of **J & J Bait and Tackle** in **Patchogue**, reports that bass fishing in the Patchogue area has been pretty good of late. Lots of small bass, and a few larger ones too, are being taken in West Lake and the Mill Pond. Nightcrawlers have been one of the more productive baits. A fishermen who goes by the name of J.R. checked in a 3.5 pound bass from the Mill Pond. Pickerel have slowed but there is still a decent pick of sea run brown trout in the tidal creeks.

George Devlin of the **Fisherman's Deli** in **Riverhead**, took a trip to Wildwood Lake with friends Terry Romano and Paul Rubinstein last Saturday. The trio combined for six largemouth bass up to 4 pounds, two small pickerel, and a bunch of perch. The bass and pickerel were taken on plastic worms. On Saturday morning, Mike Jacobs used a plastic worm to tempt two bass to 3.5 pounds at Laurel Lake. Jeff Morganlenden of Southampton, weighed in two bass to 3 pounds taken in the River. George also asked me to let you know that there has been some excellent action with catfish in the Peconic River over the last week. Night crawlers are the bait to use.

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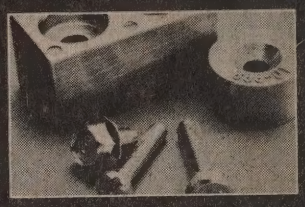

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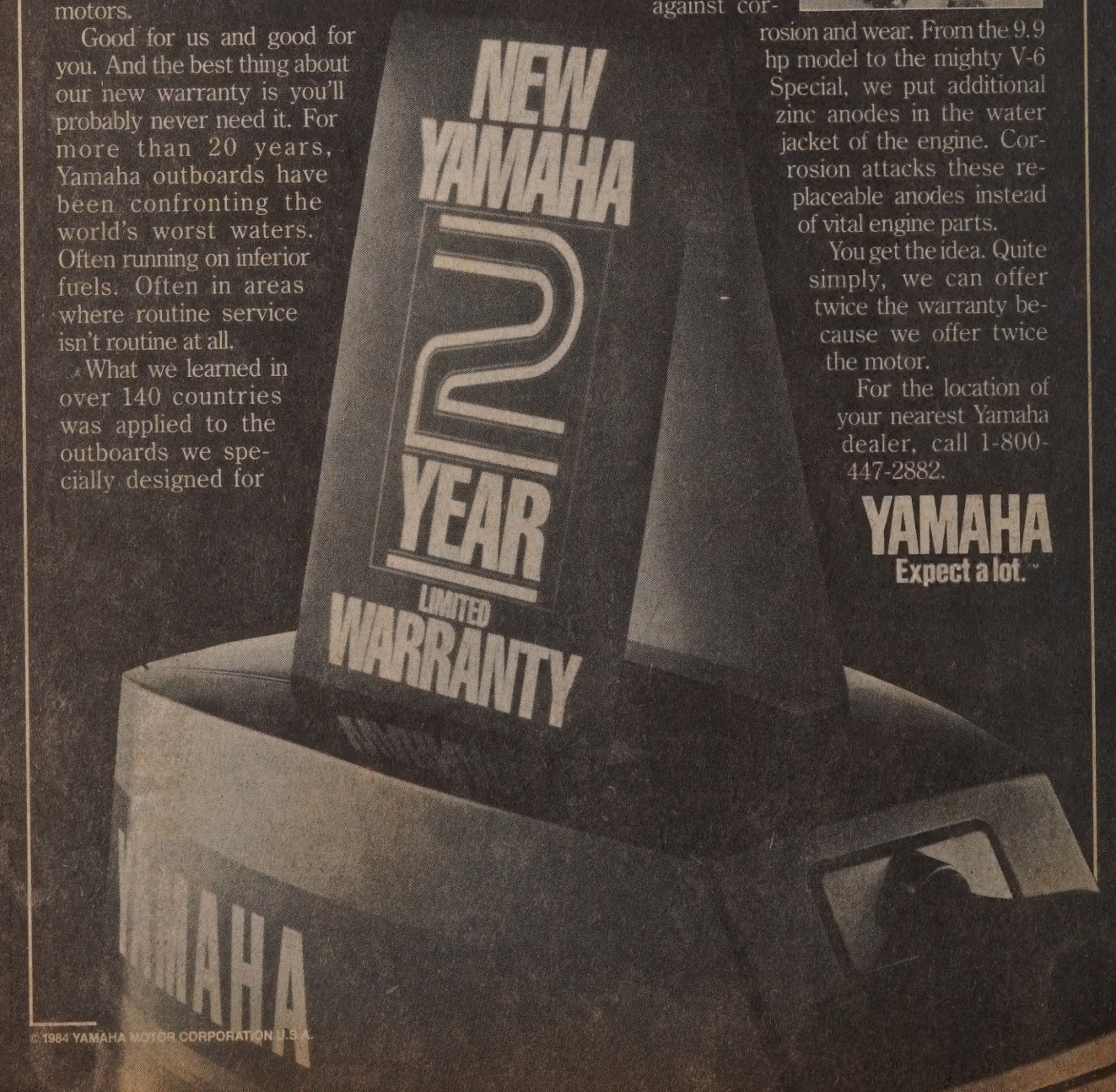

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